ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## *Medical Officer of Health*

AND THE

## *Sanitary Inspector*

FOR THE

## YEAR 1966

*Printed by* The Allen Lithographic Co. Ltd., Kirkcaldy

Health and Welfare Department,
Town House,
KIRKCALDY.

*October*, 1967

*To the* PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Burgh for the year 1966.

FREDERICK S. MELVILLE
*Medical Officer of Health.*

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# INTRODUCTION

This annual report has been compiled in accordance with the advice and wish of the Scottish Home and Health Department (Health and Welfare Services Circular No. 4/1967).

The vital statistics continue to show that there still can be improvements although of necessity these become progressively more difficult to achieve as the more evident and curable ills are conquered, infant diarrhoea, infectious diseases generally and the success of immunisation campaigns in particular. As an example, the combined death rate of infants and still-birth rate added together have been reduced by a third in the last ten years; in 1957 there was an infant mortality rate of 23 and still-birth rate of 21 making a total rate of 44; in 1966 it is 17 and 11 making a total rate of 28. There is still room for more improvement as has been shown by the comparable figures for other countries and areas but the ever closer liaison between mother, doctor, consultant, midwife and health visitor, and the steady improvement in knowledge of the mother of the events and progress of pregnancy by giving of health education both before pregnancy and more importantly, during pregnancy by introduction of "Preparation Classes" must inevitably pay dividends.

That the health visitor is the educator *par excellence* is to my mind obvious. She has to keep up her relationship with the mother subsequent to the birth and this fosters an understanding and trust.

Who is in the best situation to educate the public on the dangers of smoking, overeating and having no exercise is another problem and, more difficult, at what time in their lives should this be done? Undoubtedly it is not of much value to try starting this when the bad habits have been ingrained so therefore must be done at home or in school but, as always, example is better than precept and if mother does not start off by giving her children properly balanced diets and father smokes like a chimney the chances of the next generation are not improved. Again in my opinion health education must start, if any point can be fixed, at the preparation classes, infant welfare clinics and the home visits of the Health Visitor reinforced by health education in schools as part of ordinary education and by the members of the School Health Service. This year more intensive health education has been undertaken by the Health Visitor in the junior secondary schools in particular.

After many talks with individual general practitioners a very successful meeting was held in Hayfield Clinic in the early summer when the professional members of the health department, doctors, health visitors, midwives, district nurses and welfare officers entertained the local general practitioners, a meeting at which every practice except one, a single-handed practice, was represented and at which apart from the importance of the social side general agreement was reached on the desirability of the attachment of Health Visitors to general

practice. This was followed through immediately and by September every practice in the Burgh had been allotted a specific health visitor. This allotment is more or less on the basis of one health visitor to every two practitioners and whilst the degree of attachment varies from practice to practice I think it is fair to say that so far it has been a success. It will be even more successful when the Health Centre which has been promised, materialises. Attachment of midwives in this Burgh does not seem to be an urgent necessity but attachment of district nurses would be the next objective. It is, however, due to a combination of circumstances, but not lack of goodwill on either side, more difficult to accomplish.

Several of the practices have an age sex register and a start has already been made by the health visitors to review the aged in these practices.

Steady improvement in housing conditions, adequate home help coverage, meals on wheels, combined with more intensive search for these aged in need of help with the assistance of the general practitioners and the Ministry of Social Security has meant that there is not a tremendous pressure on the Welfare Department to place old people in residential homes. There has been no waiting list for males and whilst there is a small and urgent waiting list for females even this could have been eliminated if all the beds had been on the ground floor and some of those already in the homes had been transferred to geriatric beds where they rightly belonged. The line of demarcation is admittedly difficult but when these old people become permanently bedfast and need continuous if not particularly highly skilled nursing care then they are manifestly requiring, at best, a few weeks' skilled attention for assessment and possible rehabilitation, and at worst, continual care in long term geriatric beds. At this moment it looks as if Kirkcaldy has no need of additional places in residential homes but only an urgent need for all residential places to be in modern single storey ground floor buildings. Much has been said about old people preferring to stay in their own homes but there will always be some who will prefer a family hotel existence. Day care of aged persons who have relatives who can look after them at night or who are mentally fit to look after themselves at night but in need of some care during the day has been started in a small way at Denend Home and it is hoped that in the new residential homes facilities will be available to extend this service.

The chiropody service has been a source of some anxiety because of the shortage of qualified chiropodists practising in the area and steps are being taken to remedy this.

Children at risk are now being covered very fully, aided considerably by the liaison of the health visitor and the general practitioner and, on the other hand, the close liaison with Dr. Fraser and the local paediatric department where Dr. Penman is attached and attends regularly. Dr. Penman attended a long course in developmental

paediatrics last year and Dr. Petrie a similar course this year and it is now the policy of this department to review and assess all children at risk with a view to earlier treatment and the support of the parents. The health visitors have been given instruction in the simple hearing tests for infants and routine testing of all infants' hearing is being introduced at each clinic centre. There is now in existence more than adequate arrangements for assessment of handicapped, mentally and physically, pre-school children and supportive services for the mothers. The Council encouraged the local voluntary spastic society in its efforts to open a creche, donating generously to funds to adapt part of a Local Authority hall for the purpose and renting it free to the Society. There are two Local Education Authority nursery schools also which give some priority to these children who are handicapped or neglected.

There is an active "co-ordinating committee" under the chairmanship of the Town Clerk to deal with the "problem family" situations and to decide on action to be taken and by whom.

A register of adults who are severely physically handicapped has been started and it is hoped that in the very near future a club will be opened for them and possibly a sheltered workshop. Meantime considerable work has been done to alter their homes so that they can cope more actively with their own needs. The Burgh Factor has been most co-operative both in effecting these alterations and finding suitable alternative accommodation. Kirkcaldy is somewhat hilly and it is one of the drawbacks that even many so called ground floor houses have quite a few steps up to the door from the street which aggravates the problems more than a little.

There is no room for complacency and still much more to do to improve the social lot of the old, the handicapped and the neglected but to fragment the existing services and introduce a completely new organisation as envisaged under the recent White Paper on "Social Work in the Community" in order to "improve" the social services for the neglected child, which is what it boils down to, in the context of Kirkcaldy Burgh would seem to be a retrograde step even if not disastrous.

Arrangements were completed for starting a "screening clinic" for cervical cytology in January, 1967, at Fair Isle Clinic.

Co-operation with general practitioners, "cervical cytology" clinics, "at risk" registers and other changes have meant a considerable change in routine of both professional and clerical staff and it is very pleasing to say that all the staff have accepted these changes eagerly and gone into their new tasks with enthusiasm and I would like to record my appreciation to them. The Council, and in particular the members of the Health and Welfare Committees and the respective Conveners of these Committees, have given me great encouragement and help and I would like to record my thanks to them.

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## STAFF

| DESIGNATION | OFFICER | QUALIFICATION |
|---|---|---|
| Medical Officer of Health, Chief Welfare Officer, and School Medical Officer | Frederick S. Melville | M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. |
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health | James A. Petrie, M.C. | M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. |
| Assistant Medical Officer of Health | Agnes C. D. Penman | M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G. |
| Dental Officers | Rachel I. Mears | L.D.S. |
| | Mrs. A. Wright (part-time) | L.D.S. |
| Superintendent of Nurses | Rachel R. Cullen | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V. |
| Health Visitors | Mrs. I. B. Bannerman | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Miss G. Barnes | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Miss A. C. Bowman | R.F.N., S.R.N., S.C.M., H. |
| | Miss M. Cairns | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Miss D. M. Cairns | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., N.E. |
| | Miss Anne Campbell | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H. |
| | Mrs. M. S. Campbell | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Mrs. I. J. Hale | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., H. |
| | Mrs. A. Harper | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Miss E. M. MacPherson | S.C.M., H.V., C.S.S. |
| | Miss B. Scott | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., S.M. H.V. |
| | Miss J. Stewart | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Miss B. Williamson | R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H. |
| District Nurses | Mrs. M. F. F. Coumbis | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| | Mrs. J. Freeman | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| | Mrs. I. Gray | R.G.N., S.C.M. Q.N. |
| | Miss J. Leitch | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M. |
| | Mrs. M. S. McGrath | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M. |
| | Mrs. E. MacIntyre (Resigned 24/11/66) | R.G.N., S.C.M. Q.N. |
| | Miss Isabella Peggie (Appointed 12/12/66) | R.G.N. |
| | Mrs. F. M. Robertson | R.G.N., R.F.N., S.C.M., N. |
| | Mrs. D. Turnbull | R.G.N. |
| | Mrs. M. L. Welsh | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| | Mrs. E. McGrory | S.E.N. |
| | Mrs. A. Hutt (part-time) (Appointed 1/8/66) | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| Physiotherapist | Mrs. Smith (part-time) | M.C.S.P. |

## STAFF (*continued*)

| DESIGNATION | OFFICER | QUALIFICATION |
|---|---|---|
| Nurse | Mrs. J. King | R.G.N. |
| ct Nurse/Midwife | Miss E. T. Conway | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| ipal Midwives | Miss J. McGown | R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. |
| | Miss R. C. Taylor | S.C.M. |
| | Miss Patricia Walker (Appointed 16/2/66) | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| | Mrs. C. Wood | R.G.N., S.C.M. |
| e and Mental lth Officers | William Eadie | P.L.D., A.I.S.W. |
| | Robert T. Cuthbert | P.L.D., A.I.S.W. |
| n (Abden Home) | Miss J. F. MacVicar | R.G.N., S.R.M.N. |
| n (Denend Home) | Miss H. L. S. Brickman | R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. |
| g Medical ioner (Abden Home) | Robert R. W. Mirrey | M.B., Ch.B. |
| tant Oculist | J. Burns-Brown | M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S. |
| y Inspector | John Page | M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C. |
| Sanitary Inspector | John H. Irvine | M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C. |
| nt Sanitary Inspectors | Robert Easson | |
| | Joseph Oates | A.R.S.H. |
| | Michael Wallace | |
| | James T. Good | |
| | Robert Philp (Appointed 24/10/66) | |
| tice | Brian Donnet | |
| ary Inspectors | Douglas J. Neilson (Appointed 19/9/66) | |
| nt Cleansing Inspector | Angus C. Brown | |

## CLINICS

| | |
|---|---|
| losis and V.D. Dispensaries .. .. .. .. .. | Dunnikier Road |
| Velfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Eye; U.V.R.; Relaxation Clinics; ung Children's Clinic; Immunisation Clinic .. .. .. | Loughborough Road |
| Velfare; Dental; Ear, Nose and Throat; Young Children's Clinic; munisation Clinic .. .. .. .. .. .. .. | Glebe Park |
| elfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Relaxation Clinic; Young Children's nic; Diagnostic Clinic; Immunisation Clinic .. .. .. | Fair Isle Road |
| elfare; Young Children's Clinic; Immunisation Clinic .. .. | Alison Street |
| elfare; Child Psychiatry; Orthoptics; Young Children's Clinic | Hayfield Road |

# VITAL STATISTICS

## COMPARATIVE ANNUAL NUMBERS AND RATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS

| Population | Births | | Infant Deaths | | Maternal Deaths | | | Total Deaths | Death Rate per 1,000 Living |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | No. | Rate per 1,000 Living | No. | Infant Mortality | Puerperal Fever | Other | Rate per 1,000 Births | | |
| 43,796 | 789 | 18.0 | 47 | 60 | 1 | 5 | 7.6 | 537 | 12.3 |
| 43,904 | 757 | 17.2 | 42 | 55 | 4 | 5 | 11.9 | 545 | 12.4 |
| 44,170 | 743 | 16.8 | 53 | 71 | 2 | 7 | 12.1 | 576 | 13.0 |
| 44,622 | 729 | 16.3 | 65 | 89 | 3 | 2 | 6.9 | 579 | 13.0 |
| 44,565 | 728 | 16.3 | 44 | 60 | 1 | 5 | 8.2 | 587 | 13.2 |
| 44,622 | 704 | 15.8 | 45 | 64 | 1 | 1 | 3.0 | 540 | 12.1 |
| 44,740 | 686 | 15.3 | 53 | 77 | 2 | 1 | 4.4 | 551 | 12.5 |
| 44,947 | 715 | 15.9 | 48 | 67 | 2 | 6 | 11.2 | 553 | 12.3 |
| 45,421 | 764 | 16.8 | 41 | 54 | 1 | 5 | 7.9 | 552 | 12.2 |
| 46,579 | 758 | 16.3 | 51 | 67 | — | 3 | 4.0 | 590 | 12.7 |
| 44,660 | 682 | 14.5 | 44 | 65 | — | 6 | 8.8 | 632 | 14.2 |
| 44,100 | 722 | 15.1 | 40 | 55 | — | 5 | 6.9 | 542 | 12.3 |
| 43,300 | 736 | 15.4 | 48 | 65 | — | 7 | 9.5 | 551 | 12.7 |
| 42,367 | 767 | 16.1 | 35 | 46 | — | 2 | 2.6 | 564 | 13.3 |
| 42,461 | 823 | 17.1 | 29 | 35 | — | 3 | 3.6 | 551 | 13.0 |
| 42,929 | 697 | 14.5 | 28 | 40 | — | 3 | 4.3 | 530 | 12.3 |
| 45,656 | 964 | 20.1 | 44 | 46 | — | – | — | 578 | 12.7 |
| 47,897 | 1,102 | 23.0 | 58 | 53 | — | 4 | 3.6 | 631 | 13.2 |
| 48,671 | 980 | 20.1 | 33 | 34 | — | 3 | 3.0 | 573 | 11.8 |
| 49,000 | 887 | 18.1 | 47 | 53 | — | 1 | 1.1 | 592 | 12.1 |
| 49,425 | 896 | 18.1 | 37 | 41 | — | 2 | 1.1 | 672 | 13.6 |
| 49,230 | 923 | 18.7 | 33 | 36 | — | – | — | 645 | 13.1 |
| 49,424 | 810 | 16.4 | 31 | 38 | — | 1 | 1.2 | 588 | 11.9 |
| 50,119 | 840 | 16.8 | 24 | 29 | — | – | — | 535 | 10.7 |
| 50,520 | 938 | 18.6 | 24 | 26 | — | 2 | 2.13 | 624 | 12.4 |
| 51,093 | 856 | 16.8 | 27 | 32 | — | 1 | 1.2 | 553 | 10.8 |
| 51,475 | 901 | 17.5 | 23 | 26 | — | – | — | 551 | 10.7 |
| 51,825 | 946 | 18.3 | 22 | 23 | — | – | — | 564 | 10.9 |
| 52,061 | 1,017 | 19.5 | 20 | 20 | — | 1 | 0.98 | 524 | 10.1 |
| 52,407 | 958 | 18.3 | 15 | 16 | — | – | — | 568 | 10.8 |
| 52,515 | 874 | 16.6 | 14 | 16 | — | – | — | 520 | 9.9 |
| 52,644 | 981 | 18.6 | 21 | 21 | — | – | — | 597 | 11.3 |
| 52,697 | 967 | 18.4 | 24 | 25 | — | – | — | 551 | 10.5 |
| 52,638 | 942 | 17.9 | 15 | 16 | — | – | — | 612 | 11.6 |
| 51,996 | 848 | 16.3 | 19 | 22 | — | – | — | 609 | 11.7 |
| 51,917 | 923 | 17.8 | 19 | 21 | — | – | — | 584 | 11.2 |
| 51,886 | 875 | 16.9 | 15 | 17 | — | – | — | 601 | 11.6 |

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1966) .. .. .. 51,886

| | *Male* | *Female* | *Total* | *Kirkcaldy* | *Scotland* |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Live Births .. .. .. .. | 440 | 435 | 875 | | |
| Birth Rate .. .. .. (Births per 1,000 population) | — | — | — | 16.9 | 18.6 |
| Illegitimate Births .. .. .. | 34 | 41 | 75 | | |
| Percentage Illegitimate per 100 live births .. .. .. | — | — | — | 8.6 | 6.4 |
| Deaths of Infants under one year | 12 | 3 | 15 | | |
| Infant Mortality Rate .. .. (Deaths per 1,000 live births) | — | — | — | 17 | 23.2 |
| Number of Still-births .. .. | 8 | 2 | 10 | | |
| Still-birth Rate .. .. .. (Still-births per 1,000 live and still-births) | — | — | — | 11 | 16 |
| Neonatal Deaths (Infants dying under one month) .. .. | 8 | 1 | 9 | | |
| Neonatal Death Rate (Infants dying under one month per 1,000 live births) .. .. .. | — | — | — | 10 | 15.2 |
| Perinatal Deaths (Still-births and those dying in first week of life) | 16 | 3 | 19 | | |
| Perinatal Death Rate (Still-births and those dying in first week per 1,000 live and still-births) .. | — | — | — | 21.5 | 29.3 |
| Marriages .. .. .. .. | | | 513 | | |
| Marriage Rate .. .. .. | | | | 9.9 | 8.1 |
| Deaths (all ages) .. .. .. | 314 | 287 | 601 | | |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population | | | | 11.6 | 12.3 |
| Maternal Deaths .. .. .. | | | — | | |
| Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births .. | | | | — | 0.25 |
| Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms | 57 | 52 | 109 | | |
| Percentage of Total Deaths .. | | | | 18.1 | 18.7 |
| Deaths from Tuberculosis (pulmonary and non-pulmonary) | 1 | | 1 | | |
| Death Rate Tuberculosis per 1,000 population .. .. | | | | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| Deaths from accidents in the home | 9 | 9 | 18 | | |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population | | | | 0.35 | 0.20 |
| Deaths from Road Accidents .. | 8 | 3 | 11 | | |
| Death Rate per 1,000 population | | | | 0.21 | 0.16 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Area of Burgh .. .. .. .. .. .. | | 4,890 acres |
| Number of inhabited houses in Burgh (as at 16/5/66) .. | | 17,722 |
| Rateable Value (as at 16/5/66) .. .. .. .. | | £1,548,031 |
| Total cost of services administered by Health Committee (Financial Year 1966-67) | Expenditure .. .. | £149,241 |
| | Income .. .. | 38,243 |
| | Net Cost .. .. | £110,998 |
| Total cost of services administered by Welfare Committee (Financial Year 1966-67) | Expenditure .. .. | £69,338 |
| | Income .. .. | 18,774 |
| | Net Cost .. .. | £50,564 |

## POPULATION

There was a fall in the estimated population of 31 from that of the previous year. The statistical data in this Report are based on the Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1966 of 51,886.

## BIRTHS

Live births referable to the Burgh amounted to 875 representing a rate of 16.9 per thousand of the population compared to 923 and a rate of 17.8 in 1965 and a rate of 18.6 for Scotland during 1966.

There were 75 illegitimate births registered – an increase of 3 over last year; 8.6 per cent as opposed to 7.8 per cent in 1965 of the total live births.

## DEATHS

Deaths in the Burgh amounted to 601 giving a rate of 11.6 per 1,000 of the population as compared to 11.2 the previous year and a national rate of 12.3.

The principal causes of death in order were arterio-sclerotic heart disease including coronary disease, vascular lesions affecting central nervous system, cancer and chest disease; all the remainder of the principal causes playing a very small part.

Cancer of the Respiratory System, "Lung Cancer" accounted for 23 out of a total of 57 male deaths from all causes of cancer, a figure which projected for all Scotland would be equivalent to 2,300, or six male deaths every day. When there is very solid evidence that very very few of these deaths occur amongst non-smokers of cigarettes (and this is now well known to everyone) it makes one despair a little of the so called intelligent and well educated Scots.

Fourteen out of this 23 were under 65, so that, in addition to the grief in their families, they left families without the breadwinner. Their excuse is frequently that they must die of something, or even be killed in an accident. This argument is no more relevant than that no measures should be taken to prevent the spread of infectious diseases or road accidents.

Fatal accidents in the home totalled 18 and on the roads 11, an increase respectively of 8 and 5.

# CAUSES OF DEATH

## Arranged according to cause, sex and age

| CAUSE OF DEATH | MALES | | | | | | | FEMALES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 0– | 1– | 15– | 25– | 45– | 65– | Total | 0– | 1– | 15– | 25– | 45– | 65– | t |
| Tuberculosis of respiratory system | | | | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Syphilis and its sequelae | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasms—Total | | | 1 | 1 | 32 | 23 | 57 | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 36 | 2 |
| *Malignant neoplasms of respiratory system | | | | | 14 | 9 | 23 | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Malignant neoplasms of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissues | | | 1 | | 3 | | 4 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 | 6 |
| Other malignant neoplasms | | | | 1 | 15 | 14 | 30 | | | | 4 | 8 | 31 | 3 |
| Benign and unspecified neoplasms | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| Diabetes Mellitus | | | | | 2 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | 3 | 3 |
| Anaemias | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other General Diseases | | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | 1 | 3 |
| Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system | | 1 | | 1 | 10 | 36 | 48 | | | | 1 | 11 | 57 | 9 |
| Other diseases of nervous system | | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| Chronic rheumatic heart disease | | | | | 2 | | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Arteriosclerotic heart disease, including coronary disease | | | | 4 | 36 | 48 | 88 | | | | | 11 | 45 | 6 |
| Degenerative heart disease | | | | 1 | 1 | 17 | 19 | | | | | | 19 | 9 |
| Other diseases of heart | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Hypertensive heart disease | | | | | 1 | 5 | 6 | | | | | | 7 | 7 |
| Other hypertensive disease | | | | | 2 | 1 | 3 | | | | | 2 | | 2 |
| Other circulatory disease | | | | | 3 | 9 | 12 | | | | | 1 | 15 | 6 |
| Pneumonia (except of newborn) | 3 | | | 1 | 1 | 3 | 8 | | 1 | | | | 5 | 6 |
| Bronchitis | | | | | 3 | 12 | 15 | | | | | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Other respiratory disease | | | | | | 4 | 4 | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Influenza | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Intestinal obstruction and hernia | | | | | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| Gastritis, duodenitis, enteritis and colitis (except diarrhoea of newborn) | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Cirrhosis of liver | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Other diseases of liver | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| Infections of kidney | | | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 2 | 3 |
| Other diseases of genito-urinary system | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Diseases of skin and organs of locomotion | | | | | | | | | | | | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Congenital malformations of nervous system and sense organs | | | | | | | | 1 | | 1 | | | | 2 |
| Senility without mention of psychosis | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Hyperplasia of prostate | | | | | | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | |
| Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis | 4 | | | | | | 4 | | | | | | | |
| Other diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity unqualified | 4 | | | | | | 4 | | | | | | | |
| Ill-defined and unknown causes | | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 8 | | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 3 |
| Accidents in the home | 1 | | | 1 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 2 | | | | 3 | 4 | 9 |
| Other violence | | | 2 | | 1 | | 3 | | | | | | | |
| Suicide and self-inflicted injury | | | | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 1 | | 1 | 2 |
| TOTALS | 12 | 2 | 6 | 14 | 106 | 174 | 314 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 11 | 48 | 218 | 97 |

*These two lines already included in total of line above.

## A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

### Statistics

Eight hundred and seventy-five live births were registered during the year and 10 still-births.

One hundred and sixteen were delivered at home in Kirkcaldy and 758 in hospital at Forth Park or elsewhere.

| *Place of Birth* | *Live Births* |
|---|---|
| Forth Park Maternity Hospital .. .. .. | 715 |
| Simpson Memorial Pavilion .. .. .. | 27 |
| Elsie Inglis Maternity Hospital .. .. .. | 1 |
| Western General Hospital, Edinburgh .. .. | 1 |
| Dundee Maternity Hospital .. .. .. | 1 |
| Perth Royal Infirmary .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Craigtoun Maternity Hospital .. .. .. | 1 |
| Dunfermline Maternity Hospital .. .. .. | 1 |
| Others – No direct notification .. .. .. | 10 |
| | 758 |

No maternal deaths occurred during the year.

Ten still-births were notified, giving a rate of 11 per 1,000 total births.

Fifteen infants under one year of age died giving an infant mortality rate of 17 per 1,000 live births compared to 19 deaths in 1965 with an infant mortality rate of 21. The national infant mortality rate is 23.

Nine of these infants died under one month, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 10 compared to 11 deaths and rate of 12 in 1965.

Nine of these died under one week and this number combined with the 10 still-births, gives a total of 19 perinatal deaths and a perinatal mortality rate of 21.5. This is perhaps a more sensitive and a truer index of the maternity services than any of the others and this rate compares very favourably with the national perinatal mortality rate of 29.3 per 1,000 live and still-births.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY STATISTICS

### Number of Deaths

| | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|
| Under 1 week .. .. .. | 8 | 1 |
| 1 to 2 weeks .. .. .. | — | — |
| 2 to 3 weeks .. .. .. | — | — |
| 3 to 4 weeks .. .. .. | — | — |
| 4 weeks to 3 months .. .. | 2 | 2 |
| 3 months to 6 months .. .. | 1 | — |
| 6 months to 9 months .. .. | 1 | — |
| 9 months to 12 months .. | — | — |
| TOTAL .. .. | 12 | 3 |

### Certified Cause of Death

| | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|
| Pneumonia (except of newborn) .. .. | 3 | — |
| Congenital malformations of nervous system and sense organs .. .. .. | — | 1 |
| Birth injuries, post-natal asphyxia and atelectasis .. .. .. .. .. | 4 | — |
| Other diseases peculiar to early infancy and immaturity unqualified .. .. .. | 4 | — |
| Accidents in the home .. .. .. | 1 | 2 |
| TOTAL .. .. .. .. | 12 | 3 |

## 1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (Section 22)

### Clinic Premises

There are four *ad hoc* clinics in the Burgh and one attached to a school. These are at Loughborough Road, Fair Isle Road, Hayfield Road, Alison Street and Glebe Park School.

(*a*) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises).

These are held at Loughborough Road and Fair Isle Clinics and staffed by a Consultant Obstetrician and nurses from the hospital services, and the Health Visitors whose duties are largely educational.

| | *Ante-natal* |
|---|---|
| (i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority | 2 |
| (ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies .. | — |
| (iii) Total number of women who attended the clinics during the year | 1,468 |
| (iv) Total number of sessions .. | 194 |

(*b*) Preparation Classes

These classes have continued to flourish and the mothers realise the value of them.

Numbers attending at each clinic:

| | No. of Sessions | No. of Cases | Total Attendances |
|---|---|---|---|
| Loughborough Road | 47 (26) | 138 (83) | 520 (293) |
| Fair Isle | 43 (26) | 197 (85) | 632 (243) |

(Figures in brackets from 1965 Annual Report)

(*c*) Child Welfare Clinics (held at all the clinic premises)

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority .. | 5 | |
| (ii) Number of clinics at end of year provided by voluntary bodies .. .. | — | |
| (iii) Total number of children under five years of age who first attended at the clinics during the year and who were born in: | | |
| (*a*) 1966 .. .. .. .. | 790 | (842) |
| (*b*) 1965 .. .. .. .. | 830 | (803) |
| (*c*) 1962-64 .. .. .. .. | 335 | (507) |
| (*d*) 1961 .. .. .. .. | 132 | (154) |
| (iv) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who were born in: | | |
| (*a*) 1966 .. .. .. .. | 7,836 | (7,832) |
| (*b*) 1965 .. .. .. .. | 6,394 | (6,763) |
| (*c*) 1962-64 .. .. .. .. | 3,730 | (3,910) |
| (*d*) 1961 .. .. .. .. | 212 | (154) |
| (v) Total number of sessions .. .. | 299 | |

(*d*) YOUNG CHILDREN'S CLINIC

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total number of children invited .. | | 544 | | (208) |
| Number of children attending: | | | | |
| | *Routine* | | *Special* | |
| at 2nd birthday .. .. .. | 104 | (61) | – | (–) |
| at 3rd birthday .. .. .. | 122 | (51) | – | (1) |
| at 4th birthday .. .. .. | 56 | (39) | 10 | (1) |
| at final examination .. .. | 1 | (1) | 2 | (–) |
| Total number of children attending .. | | 295 | | (154) |
| Number of children referred to G.P. or consultant .. .. .. .. | | 7 | | (6) |
| Number of children put on observation .. | | 66 | | (31) |

(Figures in brackets from 1965 Annual Report)

(*c*) WELFARE FOODS – Statement of issues during 1966:

| | Issued during 1966 | Recoveries during 1966 |
|---|---|---|
| | | £ s. d. |
| National Dried Milk—Tins .. .. | 1,956 | 216 12 0 |
| Orange Juice Bottles .. .. | 17,282 | 1,211 3 6 |
| Cod Liver Oil Bottles .. .. | 1,409 | 52 15 0 |
| A. & D. Tablets Packets .. .. | 1,372 | 33 6 0 |

(*d*) DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS, AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.

M. & C. W.: Year – August 1965 – July 1966

| General Statistics | Age | | | Maternity | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 3 or under | 4 | Total Ages 0–4 | Ante-Natal | Post-Natal |
| Routine Dental Inspection .. .. | 97 | 95 | 192 | 3 | 5 |
| With dental defects .. .. .. | 31 | 68 | 99 | 3 | 5 |
| Offered treatment .. .. .. | 31 | 68 | 99 | 3 | 5 |
| Accepting treatment .. .. .. | 31 | 68 | 99 | 3 | 5 |
| Treated by L.A. Dental Officers .. | 31 | 68 | 99 | 3 | 5 |
| Number made dentally fit .. .. | 35 | 78 | 113 | 1 | 1 |
| Special and emergency cases .. | 66 | 48 | 114 | — | — |

## 2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

Four full-time midwives and one midwife/district nurse are employed in the domiciliary service of the Local Authority.

Number of Births in the Authority's area during the year corrected for mother's residence:

| | Adjusted Live Births | Adjusted Still Births | Adjusted Total Births |
|---|---|---|---|
| (*a*) Domiciliary .. | 116 (134) | — (1) | 116 (135) |
| (*b*) Hospital .. .. | 715 (741) | 9 (15) | 724 (756) |
| TOTAL .. .. | 831 (875) | 9 (16) | 840 (891) |

(Figures in brackets for 1965)

## 3. HEALTH VISITING (Section 24)

As is remarked upon in the introduction, during this year the Health Visitors were attached to the general practices in the Burgh. In effect, instead of being given definite areas in the Burgh, their clientele became the patients of the general practitioners. This meant of course that each had a "parish" which extended over the whole Burgh with a great increase in their travelling, and car allowances were granted. In fact, apart from one or two exceptions, they each still tended to have fairly concentrated areas. The attachments depend very much on the type of practice centre and practice, vary considerably in character and it is rather early to assess the work, but whatever the quantitative gain may be all parties are agreed that it is a step forward and all now depends on the understandings that can be fostered and the good sense of the participants.

In the table of the work of the Health Visitors, 6(*b*) "Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital", some indication of the different outlook can be seen – this year 138 cases and 290 visits, compared to 3 cases and 9 visits in 1965. Whilst the numbers visited at the general practitioner's request under heading of "Mental Health and after-care" do not show the same dramatic increase, it is hoped that in these fields also the service will now improve.

In addition to duties in Maternity and Child Welfare, the Health Visitors act as school nurses, supervise the work of the Home Helps, visit the old and do a considerable amount of health education both in school and with adult groups in clinics and to other organisations out of normal working hours.

(1) Number of home visits and cases:

| | Number of cases | | Number of visits | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Expectant Mothers .. .. .. | 433 | (392) | 772 | (750) |
| 2. Children born in 1966 .. .. .. | 889 | (934) | 6,989 | (6,856) |
| 3. Children born in 1965 .. .. .. | 1,051 | (1,203) | 6,959 | (7,043) |
| 4. Children born 1961-64 .. .. .. | 2,740 | (2,815) | 11,525 | (11,353) |
| 5. School Children .. .. .. .. | 249 | (286) | 434 | (509) |
| 6. (*a*) Persons aged 65 years and over .. | 313 | (115) | 891 | (536) |
| (*b*) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital .. | 138 | (3) | 290 | (9) |
| 7. (*a*) Mental Health: care and after-care .. | 12 | (4) | 26 | (10) |
| (*b*) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital .. | 9 | (1) | 18 | (1) |
| 8. (*a*) Other hospital after-care .. .. | 13 | (4) | 18 | (7) |
| (*b*) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital .. | 7 | (4) | 10 | (4) |
| 9. Tuberculous households .. .. | 71 | (51) | 87 | (278) |
| 10. Other infectious diseases.. .. .. | 137 | (83) | 137 | (137) |
| 11. Other .. .. .. .. .. | 899 | (887) | 3,874 | (3,313) |
| 12. No access visits .. .. .. .. | — | (—) | 2,780 | (3,496) |
| TOTAL .. | 6,961 | (6,782) | 34,810 | (34,302) |

(2) Attendances by Health Visitors at Local Health Authority Clinics, Hospital Units, School Health Service Clinics, etc.:

(i) TOTAL ATTENDANCES BY HEALTH VISITORS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| (*a*) Local Health Authority Clinics.. | 1,250 | (1,182) |
| (*b*) Hospital Units, etc. .. .. | 438 | (460) |
| (*c*) School Health Service Clinics (incl. B.C.G. 18) .. .. | 873 | (1,007) |
| (*d*) G.P. Surgeries .. .. .. | 55 | — |
| (*e*) Chest Clinics (incl. in (*b*)) .. | 27 | (27) |

(ii) TYPE OF CLINICS, ETC., ATTENDED

*Local Health Authority Clinics*

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Child Welfare .. .. .. | 969 | (965) |
| Immunisation – done at all clinics | — | (—) |
| Health Education – done at all clinics .. .. | — | (—) |
| Others: | | |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| U.V.R. .. .. .. .. | 66 | (89) |
| Young Children's Clinics .. | 68 | (35) |
| Relaxation and Mothercraft .. | 97 | (93) |
| Hearing .. .. .. .. | 50 | (—) |
| *Hospital Units, etc.* | | |
| Ante-Natal .. .. .. .. | 270 | (363) |
| V.D. .. .. .. .. | 103 | (48) |
| Chest .. .. .. .. | 27 | (27) |
| Paediatric .. .. .. .. | 38 | (22) |
| *School Health* | | |
| Medical Inspections .. .. | 387 | (233) |
| Formal Health Education (incl. B.C.G. 18) .. .. | 408 | (308) |
| Others: Eye .. .. .. | 18 | (22) |
| Mothercraft .. .. | 60 | (99) |
| B.C.G. .. .. .. | 18 | (46) |

## 4. HOME NURSING (Section 25)

With the provision of welfare services such as Home Helps, Meals on Wheels, and adaptations of homes an increasing number of chronic sick are rightly being looked after at home but this not only is changing to some extent the character of the district nurse's work but also making it more arduous and demanding with more daily visits required as opposed to visits once or twice per week.

| | *Number of Cases* | | *Number of Visits* | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Total number of persons nursed during the year .. .. | 858 | (783) | 27,203 | (25,038) |
| 2. Number aged under 5 at first visit in 1966 .. .. .. | 6 | (8) | 68 | (57) |
| 3. Number aged 65 or over at first visit in 1966 .. .. .. | 551 | (494) | 19,359 | (18,328) |

(Numbers in brackets from 1965 Annual Report)

## 5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

Five hundred and eighty-one primary vaccinations were performed amongst child population. This was 96 more than in 1965 and 178 more than 1964 and is fairly encouraging.

## SMALLPOX VACCINATION

NUMBERS RECEIVING SMALLPOX VACCINATION

YEAR OF BIRTH

| | | –1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Live Births | | | 810 | 840 | 938 | 856 | 901 | 945 | 1,017 | 958 | 874 | 981 | 967 | 942 | 848 | 923 | 875 | |
| YEAR OF VACCINATION | –1953 | 35 | 127 | 121 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 283 |
| | 1954 | 42 | 21 | 131 | 181 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 375 |
| | 1955 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 115 | 177 | | | | | | | | | | | | 307 |
| | 1956 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 15 | 126 | 229 | | | | | | | | | | | 393 |
| | 1957–1958 | 14 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 7 | 14 | 192 | 304 | | | | | | | | | 542 |
| | 1959 | 19 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 6 | 10 | 184 | 297 | | | | | | | | 525 |
| | 1960 | 21 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 8 | 12 | 161 | 221 | | | | | | | 445 |
| | 1961 | 10 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 14 | 26 | 29 | 199 | 260 | | | | | | 556 |
| | 1962 | | | | | 439 | 37 | 74 | 69 | 64 | 84 | 380 | 262 | | | | | 1,409 |
| | 1963 | | | | | | 49 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 15 | 97 | 16 | | | | 199 |
| | 1964 | | | | | | | 27 | 7 | 7 | 11 | 13 | 77 | 249 | 12 | | | 403 |
| | 1965 | | | | | | | | 18 | 3 | 8 | 8 | 29 | 160 | 250 | 9 | | 485 |
| | 1966 | | | | | | | | | 35 | 6 | 7 | 17 | 35 | 176 | 297 | 8 | 581 |
| | | 161 | 166 | 273 | 328 | 761 | 345 | 330 | 623 | 601 | 538 | 683 | 482 | 460 | 438 | 306 | 8 | 6,503 |

Average number of babies born each year over the previous five years is 911 so that number of vaccinations completed in each year, if one hundred per cent consented, should be 911. As can be seen for the year 1966, 581 vaccinations were completed which is sixty-four per cent of this average. In 1965 this percentage was fifty-two so that there has been a marked improvement in vaccinial state of young children.

Number of Persons re-vaccinated against smallpox during period:

| Year of Birth of Persons | Successful | No Reaction | Not Examined |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1966 | — | — | — |
| 1965 | — | — | — |
| 1964 | — | — | 3 |
| 1963 | — | — | — |
| 1962 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| 1961 | 2 | — | 1 |
| 1960 | — | — | — |
| 1959 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 1958 | 1 | — | 1 |
| 1957 | 2 | — | 1 |
| 1956 or earlier | 97 | 3 | 20 |
| TOTALS | 107 | 6 | 29 |

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

NUMBERS RECEIVING FULL PRIMARY COURSE OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

YEAR OF BIRTH

| YEAR OF IMMUNISATION | –1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | TOTAL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Live Births | | 810 | 840 | 938 | 856 | 901 | 945 | 1,017 | 958 | 874 | 981 | 967 | 942 | 848 | 923 | 875 | |
| –1951 | 14 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 14 |
| 1952 | 205 | 19 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 224 |
| 1953 | 52 | 202 | 21 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | 275 |
| 1954 | 28 | 87 | 204 | 66 | | | | | | | | | | | | | 385 |
| 1955 | 14 | 9 | 30 | 237 | 66 | | | | | | | | | | | | 356 |
| 1956 | 111 | 6 | 10 | 19 | 219 | 97 | | | | | | | | | | | 462 |
| 1957 | 114 | 119 | 12 | 13 | 28 | 209 | 101 | | | | | | | | | | 596 |
| 1958 | 5 | 102 | 96 | 8 | 9 | 34 | 259 | 112 | | | | | | | | | 625 |
| 1959 | 2 | 4 | 87 | 107 | 9 | 15 | 28 | 284 | 126 | | | | | | | | 662 |
| 1960 | — | — | 2 | 51 | 105 | 8 | 13 | 39 | 241 | 166 | | | | | | | 625 |
| 1961 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 54 | 84 | 18 | 23 | 48 | 399 | 338 | | | | | | 977 |
| 1962 | 1 | — | — | 2 | 7 | 54 | 43 | 8 | 14 | 35 | 421 | 267 | | | | | 852 |
| 1963 | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 4 | 68 | 27 | 6 | 11 | 46 | 414 | 363 | | | | 943 |
| 1964 | — | — | — | 1 | — | 2 | 5 | 78 | 30 | 11 | 13 | 46 | 384 | 348 | | | 918 |
| 1965 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 43 | 22 | 8 | 11 | 25 | 378 | 398 | | 886 |
| 1966 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 8 | 22 | 17 | 372 | 385 | 807 |

YEAR OF BIRTH

| YEAR OF VACCINATION | –1942 | 1942 1956 | 1943 1957 | 1944 1958 | 1945 1959 | 1946 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 0–15 | All Ages |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1956 | | 24 | | | | | | | | | | | 24 | 24 |
| 1957 | | | 175 | | | | | | | | | | 175 | 175 |
| 1958 | 150 | | | 6,160 | | | | | | | | | 6,160 | 6,310 |
| 1959 | 1,454 | | | | 3,739 | | | | | | | | 3,739 | 5,193 |
| 1960 | 944 | | | | | 1,111 | | | | | | | 1,111 | 2,055 |
| 1961 | 938 | | | | | 1,051 | 163 | | | | | | 1,214 | 2,152 |
| 1962 | 2,718 | | | | | 837 | 663 | 156 | | | | | 1,656 | 4,374 |
| 1963 | 261 | | | | | 141 | 38 | 535 | 154 | | | | 868 | 1,129 |
| 1964 | 65 | | | | | 105 | 26 | 92 | 582 | 147 | | | 952 | 1,017 |
| 1965 | 59 | | | | | 73 | 14 | 39 | 55 | 568 | 180 | | 929 | 988 |
| 1966 | 46 | | | | | 64 | 31 | 25 | 45 | 72 | 567 | 188 | 992 | 1,038 |
| | 6,635 | 24 | 175 | 6,160 | 3,739 | 3,382 | 935 | 847 | 836 | 787 | 747 | 188 | 17,820 | 24,455 |

**Diphtheria Immunisation**

Three thousand, four hundred and thirty-eight children born since 1st January, 1962, have had completed immunisation against Diphtheria out of a total of some 4,500 born during these years. This, allowing for those born in the last six months of 1966, is more than 80%, which seems very satisfactory as there are known to be others who have been immunised but not notified as such to the Local Health Authority.

**Whooping Cough**

As more than 90% of those immunised against Diphtheria have in fact had the triple antigen of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus, the immunisation rate against Whooping Cough is also satisfactory.

**Tetanus**

It is sometimes not advisable to immunise a child against Whooping Cough because of risks of reaction and these are immunised against Diphtheria and Tetanus, so that the Tetanus immunisation figures are very satisfactory, and few, if any, young children in Kirkcaldy should ever require prophylactic antitetanus serum. Mothers are given an individual record card and encouraged and exhorted to keep them to hand so that in event of injury or accident the doctor in attendance knows that the child has been immunised against Tetanus.

**Poliomyelitis**

About the same proportion of the young children have been immunised against Poliomyelitis as against Diphtheria. As there is no upset to the child it would be hoped that this could be improved on and there is no reason why almost 100% should not be immunised against this disease and mothers of children who have not yet received it should make enquiries of their own doctors or the local authority clinics or nurses immediately.

**Vaccination against Poliomyelitis**

Number vaccinated against poliomyelitis during year 1966:

| Year of Birth | Completed Primary Course |
|---|---|
| 1966 .. .. .. .. .. .. | 188 |
| 1965 .. .. .. .. .. .. | 567 |
| 1964 .. .. .. .. .. .. | 72 |
| 1963 .. .. .. .. .. .. | 45 |
| 1962 .. .. .. .. .. .. | 25 |
| 1944-1961 .. .. .. .. .. | 95 |
| 1943 .. .. .. .. .. | |
| Others (up to 40 years of age) .. .. | 46 |
| TOTAL .. | 1,038 |
| Number of Persons receiving reinforcing doses .. .. .. .. | 955 |

## Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Number of children who received courses of immunisation in year

| Year of Birth | Diphtheria | Tetanus | Pertussis | Diphtheria and Pertussis | Diphtheria and Tetanus | Diphtheria, Pertussis and Tetanus | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1966 | — | — | — | — | — | 385 | PRIMARY |
| 1965 | — | — | — | — | — | 372 | |
| 1964 | — | — | — | — | — | 17 | |
| 1963 | — | — | — | — | — | 22 | |
| 1962 | — | — | — | — | 2 | 8 | |
| 1961 | — | 1 | — | — | 23 | 3 | |
| 1960 | — | 8 | — | — | 50 | — | |
| 1959 or earlier | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | — | |
| TOTAL | Nil | 10 | Nil | Nil | 78 | 807 | |
| 1966 | — | — | — | — | — | — | BOOSTERS |
| 1965 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | |
| 1964 | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | |
| 1963 | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | |
| 1962 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 1961 | 34 | 1 | — | — | 439 | 7 | |
| 1960 | 14 | 6 | — | — | 200 | 4 | |
| 1959 | 3 | — | — | — | 2 | 1 | |
| 1958 | 1 | — | — | — | 3 | — | |
| 1957 | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| 1956 or earlier | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | — | |
| TOTAL | 52 | 9 | Nil | Nil | 647 | 17 | |

## B.C.G. Vaccination

| Group | Tuberculin Tested | | Negative Re-actors | | Vaccinated during 1966 | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Nurses .. .. .. .. | 1 | 61 | 1 | 17 | 1 | 17 |
| Contacts .. .. .. .. | 17 | 22 | 16 | 22 | 16 | 22 |
| School Children .. .. .. | 425 | 429 | 373 | 375 | 372 | 375 |
| Others .. .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL .. .. .. .. | 443 | 512 | 390 | 414 | 389 | 414 |

Number of Contacts Tuberculin Tested under the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme:

| Age Group | Result Positive | | Result Negative | | Totals | | Given B.C.G. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 year .. .. .. | — | — | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 and under 5 years .. .. | — | — | 10 | 13 | 10 | 13 | 10 | 13 |
| 5 and under 10 years .. | — | — | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| 10 and under 15 years .. | *1 | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| 15 and under 20 years .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| 20 years and over .. .. | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Total Tests Performed .. | 1 | — | 16 | 22 | 17 | 22 | 16 | 22 |

*Given B.C.G. on 14/8/64

## 6. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE (Section 27)

### Health Education

Health Education is continuously being given by all the members of the Health Department team, doctors, health visitors, sanitary inspectors, nurses and midwives in their day-to-day contact with the members of the public but in addition a great deal is done by individuals giving talks to groups of outside organisations, mothers' clubs and so on and in addition every opportunity is taken to improve health by poster, exhibit and other means of publicity.

### Tuberculosis

No applications for assistance in kind were received during the year.

The Health Visitors made 87 visits to households where there were notified cases of tuberculosis to advise them in general hygiene, care of the patient, diet, and other aspects of their welfare.

They also attended the Chest Clinic at Victoria Hospital on the occasions on which it was held.

### Chiropody

This is a particularly essential service to the elderly and the handicapped as foot deformities and discomforts can reduce their activities and this tends to cause dcterioration in their general health. In addition to the domiciliary service, a chiropodist visits the Abden and Denend Homes once a fortnight.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Number on Register at 1/1/66 .. .. .. | 732 | |
| Number of new cases during 1966 .. .. .. | 113 | |
| | | 845 |
| Number of cases removed during the year .. .. | | 214 |
| Number on Register at 31/12/66 .. .. .. | | 631 |
| Number of treatments during the year .. .. | | 2,804 |
| Amount of fees recovered during the year .. .. | | £183 |
| Amount of fees paid to chiropodists during the year | | £1,547 8s. |

**Rehousing in Relation to Medical and Medico-Social Reasons** 1966

One hundred and eighteen families were rehoused who had been recommended for health reasons. Forty-nine of these had been rehoused within a year of getting the recommendation, thirty-four within two years and the remaining thirty-five had waited more than two years, but some of these had only marginal health reasons for rehousing.

The attachment of members of staff, namely Health Visitors and General Practitioners, should result in better and more equitable assessments of the health reasons for rehousing.

**Convalescence**

No cases were sent during the year for convalescence.

**Provision of Nursing Equipment**

Nursing equipment is loaned in appropriate circumstances to help in the home nursing of invalids. This equipment is held by the District Nurses and is also obtainable from the department.

During the year 1,033 articles of medical equipment were on loan from the department.

## 7. HOME HELP SERVICE (Section 28)

| | Home Help to households for persons | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Aged 65 or over on first visit in 1966 | Aged under 65 on first visit in 1966 | | | | Total |
| | | Chronic Sick | Mentally Dis-ordered | Maternity | Others | |
| Number of Cases .. | 370 | 25 | — | 1 | 32 | 428 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of part-time home helps in service on 1/1/66 .. | 239 |
| Number of part-time home helps in service on 31/12/66 .. | 231 |
| Number of home helps recruited during the year .. .. | 69 |
| Number of home helps who left the service during the year | 77 |
| Number of hours' service given during the year .. .. | 138,555 |

The Home Help service has continued to run satisfactorily during the year but the amount of administrative and field work required to be done to keep it running is very considerable and heavily involves health visiting and office staff.

## 8. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The two Mental Welfare Officers continued to care for and supervise the mentally ill and the mental defectives.

| **Mental Defectives** | M. | F. |
|---|---|---|
| Number of children (under 16 years) in Institutions | 10 | 9 |
| Number of adults (under private guardianship) .. | — | 2 |
| Number of adults in Institutions .. .. .. | 21 | 20 |

Fourteen mental defectives are at the Fife County Senior Occupation Centre in Kirkcaldy at which eighteen places are reserved for Kirkcaldy Burgh cases.

There they make a varied assortment of toys, corrugated boxes and firewood, and can earn up to £1 19s. 11d. per week.

**Mental Defectives**

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of children reported under Section 65, Education (Scotland) Act, 1962, to Local Authority in 1966 .. (This child is now in Hospital) | 1 |
| Number of school leavers reported under Section 66, Education (Scotland) Act, 1962, to Local Authority in 1966 .. .. .. .. .. .. .. (3 of these school leavers are now working and 3 attending Senior Occupation Centre) | 14 |

| | *Male* | *Female* |
|---|---|---|
| Number on Register .. .. .. .. | 33 | 32 |
| Number of these in employment .. .. .. | 9 | 5 |
| Number of these over 65/60 .. .. .. | — | 1 |
| Number in Senior Occupation Centre .. .. | 8 | 6 |
| Number of visits made in year to supervise .. | 120 | |

**Mental Illness**

During the year 1966, one female was certified as mentally ill and removed to Stratheden Hospital, Cupar.

## 9. WORK DONE UNDER THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1938

No Nursing Homes proper operate in the Burgh, exemption being granted to Kirkcaldy General Hospital and the Hunter Hospital, now the property of the South Eastern Regional Hospital Board, Scotland.

## 10. WORK UNDER NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

| | Premises registered at end of year | | Child Minders registered at end of year |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Provided by Commercial Firms | Other Nurseries | |
| 1. Number .. .. .. | — | 2 | 4 |
| 2. Number of places approved and number of children minded .. .. .. | — | 35 | 36 |

## B. ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH

### INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The year was relatively uneventful in the infectious diseases field.

**Chicken Pox**

The numbers notified of this usually mild epidemic disease of children went down from 326 to 101.

**Measles**

In 1966 there were 328 notified cases as compared to 333 in 1965, but instead of a very high peak of incidence at one time the disease grumbled along throughout the year with a moderate peak in July and August.

**Scarlet Fever**

This, at the moment, mild infectious disease has not been prevalent for some years, but 40 cases were notified in 1966 as compared to 15 in 1965.

**Dysentery**

108 cases were notified during the year (264 in 1965). In only 22 of these was the diagnosis confirmed bacteriologically.

In addition, 16 cases of gastro-enteritis and 88 of enteritis were notified a total then of 212 cases of dysentery, enteritis, etc., compared to 461 in 1965.

**Food Poisoning**

Six cases of food poisoning were notified during the year. Four were found to have been infected with salmonella typhimurium, 1 with salmonella enteriditis and 1 with salmonella para typhoid B. None was very ill and apart from 2 being in one family no connection could be discovered between them nor could any article of food be incriminated, although in the case of the two in one family they had just returned from a coach tour in Italy and apparently others on the tour had been affected.

During the year 283 samples of faeces were submitted to the laboratory from cases of dysentery, diarrhoea and food poisoning and 35 were positive, 22 sonne dysentery, 2 salmonella enteriditis, 2 salmonella para typhoid B and 9 salmonella typhimurium.

**Whooping Cough**

7 Cases notified in 1966 compared to 2 in 1965. Even when diagnosed now this disease is usually mild, but in the non-immune it can be very serious and efforts to keep up the state of immunity were sustained throughout the year.

**Infective Hepatitis**

30 Cases were notified in 1966 compared to 10 in 1965. 19 were children and 11 adults. 17 of the cases could be linked with another case fairly closely. The incubation period of this disease is rather long and makes tracing and prevention difficult.

| Nature of Disease | No. of Cases Notified | | Removed to Hospital | Not Removed to Hospital |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bronchitis | 5 | (3) | 5 | — |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever | 4 | (—) | 4 | — |
| Chickenpox | 101 | (326) | 2 | 99 |
| Food Poisoning | 6 | (—) | 1 | 5 |
| Erysipelas | 4 | (3) | — | 4 |
| Measles | 333 | (328) | 3 | 330 |
| Pneumonia, acute primary | 25 | (35) | 19 | 6 |
| Pneumonia – Acute Influenzal | 1 | (1) | — | 1 |
| Para-Typhoid B | 1 | (—) | 1 | — |
| Scarlet Fever | 40 | (15) | — | 40 |
| Whooping Cough | 7 | (2) | 1 | 6 |
| Dysentery | 108 | (264) | 2 | 106 |
| Gastro-Enteritis | 16 | (12) | 10 | 6 |
| Enteritis | 88 | (211) | 3 | 85 |
| Infective Hepatitis | 30 | (10) | 13 | 17 |
| Respiratory Infection | 9 | (11) | 9 | — |
| TOTALS | 778 | (1,221) | 73 | 705 |

(Numbers in brackets from 1965 Annual Report)

**Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

Seven cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1966 as compared with fourteen for the previous year.

In addition, one male and one female were transferred in from other areas, aged respectively 41 and 55.

**Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis**

Two cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1966 as compared with the same number for the previous year.

The site of the disease in the notified cases was found to be:

| | Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| Abdominal ..... ..... ..... | — | — | — |
| Miliary ..... ..... ..... | — | — | — |
| Superficial Glands ..... ..... | — | — | — |
| Genito-Urinary Organs ..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Other Organs ..... ..... | — | — | — |
| Total ..... ..... | 1 | 1 | 2 |

**Tuberculosis**

| | Age Period | No. of cases notified | | No. of notified cases actually confirmed | | No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium treatment | | No. of Deaths of notified cases | | Total Deaths | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| PULMONARY | Under 5 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 5 to 15 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 15 to 25 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 25 to 35 years | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — |
| | 35 to 45 years | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | *1 | — |
| | 45 to 55 years | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| | 55 to 65 years | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 65 upwards | 2 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Totals .. | 4 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | — | 1 | — |
| NON-PULMONARY | Under 5 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 5 to 15 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 15 to 25 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 25 to 35 years | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 35 to 45 years | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| | 45 to 65 years | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — |
| | 65 upwards | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | Totals .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | — |

*Certified cause of death – Right-sided cardiac failure – P.T.B.

The number of persons resident in the area at 31st December, 1966, who were known to be suffering from tuberculosis was:

| | |
|---|---|
| Pulmonary .. .. .. .. | 99 |
| Non-Pulmonary .. .. .. | 12 |
| Total .. .. | 111 |

## C. PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Fifty-eight ships from foreign ports entered Kirkcaldy Harbour during 1966 and pratique was granted in all cases.

## WELFARE SERVICES

The Welfare Services under the National Assistance Act, 1948, are administered by the Welfare Committee of the Burgh and deal with the provision of residential accommodation for the aged and infirm and others in need of care and attention, provision of temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need, the registration and inspection of disabled persons and old persons' homes provided otherwise than by the local authority and provision of welfare services for the blind, deaf and dumb, crippled and others suffering from disabilities.

### RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

Residential accommodation is provided by the Council in accordance with a scheme made under Section 21 of the Act and welfare services for handicapped in accordance with schemes made under Section 29 of the Act.

Dr. Mirrey of Kinghorn acts as General Practitioner for all the residents in Abden Home and I would like to express thanks to him for the very excellent care he gives them.

The borderline between chronic sick old people looked after in these Homes and hospital cases is very indefinite and matrons, staff, and General Practitioners have a great deal of responsibility and work in maintaining these old people in comfort.

Accommodation for the aged and infirm continues to be provided in the following Homes:

| | |
|---|---|
| Abden Home | .. 60 beds |
| Denend Home | .. 30 beds |

Throughout the year 42 persons were admitted to the Homes, 21 from their own homes, 4 direct from hospital, 14 as re-admissions after periods of hospital treatment.

At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 11 women for admission to Denend Home and a waiting list of 2 women for admission to ground floor accommodation in Abden Home. Although the waiting lists are not long, on the female side particularly, those on the list are urgently requiring admission, and in addition applicants when they do come forward are in urgent and dire need of immediate admission. Ideally, a few vacant places should be maintained for these but at present the pressure for places does not permit this.

The council is negotiating for land for a new home, but unfortunately progress is slow and it seems doubtful if this home will materialise before 1969!

The number according to various age groups of the total of 42 is as follows:

| | Age up to 64 | up to 69 | up to 74 | up to 79 | up to 84 | up to 89 | 90+ |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Abden Home | 8 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 2 |
| Denend Home | — | 1 | — | 2 | 4 | 2 | — |

| | Abden Home | | Denend Home | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Number at 31/12/65 ..... | 23 | 24 | 12 | 17 |
| Admitted during 1966 ..... | 22 | 11 | 4 | 5 |
| Discharged during 1966 ..... | 13 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| Deaths during 1966 ..... | 7 | 4 | 2 | 5 |
| Number at 31/12/66 | 25 | 24 | 11 | 15 |

Television is provided in both Homes and is well patronised by the Residents.

Four concerts were arranged at Abden Home during the winter months to which Residents of Denend Home were conveyed by bus.

Two bus outings were arranged for the Residents of both Homes, one going to Peebles and the other to Arbroath.

Chiropody treatment is carried out in both Homes. A qualified Chiropodist attends at the Home once every two weeks.

The undernoted table shows the number of persons classified according to handicap in various homes at the end of the year:

**Persons Resident in Accommodation on 31st December, 1966**

| Description of Persons Accommodated | In Premises Managed by the Council | | In Accommodation provided on behalf of the Council | | | | Number of Persons Accommodated for whom other Local Authorities are Responsible | | Tot Num of Pe for wh the C ar Respo | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | By other Local Authorities | | By Voluntary Organisations | | | | | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Not Materially Handicapped: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | 7 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | — |
| Not Aged .. .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Defective Sight: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | 4 | 3 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 4 | 4 |
| Not Aged .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Defective Hearing: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | 4 | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 5 |
| Epileptic: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Not Aged .. .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other Physically Handicapped: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | 16 | 19 | — | — | 1 | 5 | 2 | — | 15 | 24 |
| Not Aged .. .. | 1 | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 |
| Mentally Handicapped: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aged .. .. .. | 2 | 13 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 14 |
| Not Aged .. .. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — |
| TOTAL .. .. .. | 38 | 41 | — | — | 1 | 9 | 3 | 1 | 36 | 49 |

**Temporary Accommodation**

No provision of temporary accommodation was found to be necessary during the year.

## OTHER HOMES

To meet the needs of handicapped and aged persons use is made of Voluntary Associations and other Homes. At the end of the year 10 persons were being accommodated. Of these four were in a Church of Scotland Home, one in the Epileptic Colony, Bridge of Weir, two in Blind Home, one in the Red Cross Home in Largs, one in Cockburn House, Kennoway, and one in Salvation Army Home, Dundee.

The following table shows the number of persons classified according to handicap in these Homes at the end of the year.

| Description of Persons Accommodated | Male | | Female | | Total (both sexes all ages) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Aged | Not Aged | Aged | Not Aged | |
| Defective Sight .. .. | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Defective Hearing .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Epilepsy .. .. .. | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other Physical Handicap .. | 1 | — | 5 | 1 | 7 |
| TOTAL .. .. | 1 | — | 6 | 3 | 10 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Registration and inspection of disabled or Old Persons' Homes (Section 37) .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Removals (Section 47) .. .. .. .. .. | Nil |
| Care of Property (Section 48) .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Burials (Section 50) .. .. .. .. .. | 7 |

## ALTERATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS

Twenty-two handicapped persons had alterations or additions made to their homes during the year at a cost of £418 14s. 1d. to the Local Authority. The principal items were altering bathrooms, widening doors, ramps for wheelchairs, extensions and handrails to stairs, and bath rails. In addition, aids were bought for seven handicapped persons at a cost of £50 14s. 4d. The hilly nature of the town often requires that even ground floor houses and flats have several steps up to their front and back doors and this increases the problem of suitably housing disabled.

## BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

The Welfare Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted are carried out on behalf of the Town Council by the Fife Society for the Blind. The Council are represented on the Committee of the Society. A per capita Grant of £10 per annum is paid by the Council to the Society for each Registered Blind Person. A per capita grant of £1 per annum is also paid for each Registered Partially Sighted Person. At 31st December, 1966, there were 129 Blind Persons (60 men, 69 women) registered with the Authority and of these 33 men were aged 65 years and over and 60 women were 60 years and over. On the Partially Sighted Register there were 27 (16 men and 11 women).

## DEAF AND DUMB

The Welfare Services for the Deaf and Dumb are carried out on behalf of the Council by the Fife Mission of the Deaf and Dumb Christian Association. The Council are represented on the Association. During the year the per capita grant for each registered deaf and dumb person made by the Council to the Association, was increased from £2 10s. to £7 10s. At 31st December, 1966, there were 38 registered deaf and dumb persons (19 men and 19 women).

## MEALS ON WHEELS

This scheme which came into operation on 6th May, 1963, has operated satisfactorily during 1966. The meals are supplied under contract by the Kirkcaldy & District Co-operative Society on six days per week. Over 60% of the recipients take meals on 6 days per week, the remainder having meals 3, 4 or 5 days per week. Persons entitled to participate in this scheme are males 65 years or over and females 60 years or over, and handicapped persons, if their income, after deducting any National Assistance, disability, war injury or blind pension, does not exceed £8 per week in the case of a married couple and £4 12s. 6d. per week in the case of a single person.

During the year 1966, 79,292 meals were served. At the end of the year 306 persons were receiving Meals on Wheels.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number participating at 1/1/66 .. .. .. | 292 |
| New applications during year .. .. .. | 148 |
| Number of applications cancelled during year .. | 134 |
| Number on Register at 31/12/66 .. .. .. | 306 |
| Cost to Local Authority .. .. .. .. | £12,911 |

## PROTECTION OF PROPERTY

The movable property of two persons admitted to hospital was safeguarded for the period they were in hospital.

## INTERMENTS

Under the provision of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Welfare Department has arranged for the burial of seven deceased persons for whom no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the bodies had been, or were being, made.

Interments are arranged in accordance with a contract drawn up between the Local Authority and a local Undertaker.

Full funeral costs were recovered from the estate of deceased in four instances and part of the cost recovered in one case.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 AND 1951

**Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention**

No action was taken under the National Assistance Acts during the year.

## OTHER WELFARE WORK

The Welfare Officer acts as Agent for several Voluntary Societies (e.g. Cancer Relief) in the disbursement of grants made by those Societies. There were six beneficiaries to whom grants were paid during the year.

## DISABLED DRIVERS

During the year 12 badges were issued to Disabled Drivers (9 males, 3 females) exempting them from the Royal Burgh of Kirkcaldy (Traffic Regulation) Experimental Order, 1965.

## D. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Fife County Council is the education authority for the Burgh but the school health service is delegated to our health department and two medical officers devote approximately 50 per cent of their time to this work.

The health visitors take a very active part in the secondary schools in the vocational training classes and are accepted in these schools as part-time teachers.

As mentioned elsewhere B.C.G. is now offered to entrants to secondary schools instead of to thirteen year olds.

Because of the shortage of consultant ophthalmologists it has been necessary to refer pupils with simple refractive errors to their family doctors for onward referral to opticians but it is still possible to have all pupils with strabismus referred to the consultant.

Incidental physical disease of children, such as skin lesions, otorrhoeas and so on, are now much less common but on the other hand more and more children appear to require examination and treatment for emotional and behaviour problems.

I would like to thank the headmasters and teachers of all the schools for their help and co-operation. The brief summary relating to the school years 1965/66 is given herewith:

| | *Boys* | *Girls* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Number of parents present at medical inspection: | | | |
| (*a*) with entrant infants .. .. | 365 | 406 | 771 |
| (*b*) with others (second age group) .. | 93 | 141 | 234 |
| Number of examinations: | | | |
| Entrants .. .. .. .. .. | 406 | 437 | 843 |
| Second age group .. .. .. | 146 | 210 | 356 |
| Third age group .. .. .. .. | 691 | 575 | 1,266 |
| Vision testing (6-7 years) .. .. | 452 | 295 | 747 |
| Fourth age group .. .. .. | 56 | — | 56 |
| Re-examinations .. .. .. .. | 67 | 40 | 107 |
| Non-routines .. .. .. .. | 116 | 112 | 228 |
| Number of children examined .. .. | 1,299 | 1,517 | 2,816 |
| Clean .. .. .. .. .. | 1,293 | 1,498 | 2,791 |
| Nits or head vermin .. .. .. | 6 | 19 | 25 |
| Special clinics – Eye .. .. .. .. | .. | .. | 22 |

| Treatments carried out by Nurses at Clinics: | *New Cases* | *Total Attendances* |
|---|---|---|
| Uncleanliness or Neglect | — | — |
| Impetigo Contagiosa | — | — |
| Other Skin conditions | — | — |
| Nose and Throat cases | — | — |
| Eye Disease (external) | 2 | 2 |
| Other cases | 3 | 7 |
| Cuts and Bruises | 11 | 11 |
| Septic conditions | 3 | 11 |
| Accidents | 2 | 2 |
| Advisory cases | — | — |
| Ear cases | 3 | 3 |
| Head vermin | 1 | 1 |

Applications for boots and clothing are now sent to the Director of Education.

Eight children of school age were accommodated for short periods at the Convalescent Home at Humbie (Seaforth Sanatorium Trust).

Number of school leavers notified by the School Medical Officer to the Education Authority under Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1966: 15.

| | *Boys* | *Girls* | *Total* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Forms Y.9 issued in 1966 | 52 | 12 | 64 |
| Reasons for issue of Forms Y.9: | | | |
| Mental Retardation | 1 | 5 | 6 |
| Epilepsy | — | 1 | 1 |
| Physically Handicapped | — | 1 | 1 |
| Defective Colour Vision | 35 | 1 | 36 |
| Bronchitis History | 2 | — | 2 |
| Stammer | 1 | — | 1 |
| Asthma | 9 | 1 | 10 |
| Artificial Lower Limb | 1 | — | 1 |
| Allergic to Pollens and House Dust | — | 1 | 1 |
| Partially Deaf | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Deaf | — | 1 | 1 |
| Stiffened Spine | 1 | — | 1 |
| Forms Y.10 issued in 1966 | 1 | 4 | 5 |
| Reasons for issue of Forms Y.10: | | | |
| Mental Retardation | — | 4 | 4 |
| Congenital Heart Defect | 1 | — | 1 |

## Dental Inspection and Treatment

### Section I—General Statistics

| Age | Routine Dental Inspection | With Dental Defects | Offered Treatment | Accepting Treatment | Treated | Special and Emergency Cases |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| —5 | 59 | 29 | 29 | 16 | 12 | 4 |
| 5 | 704 | 380 | 380 | 181 | 157 | 38 |
| 6 | 733 | 366 | 366 | 245 | 229 | 91 |
| 7 | 771 | 345 | 345 | 204 | 191 | 71 |
| 8 | 681 | 341 | 341 | 165 | 155 | 54 |
| 9 | 718 | 311 | 311 | 150 | 141 | 57 |
| 10 | 607 | 296 | 296 | 152 | 142 | 47 |
| 11 | 767 | 170 | 170 | 88 | 81 | 29 |
| 12 | 725 | 260 | 260 | 78 | 70 | 29 |
| 13 | 529 | 224 | 224 | 76 | 75 | 17 |
| 14 | 364 | 146 | 146 | 33 | 32 | 22 |
| 15 | 162 | 68 | 68 | 32 | 29 | 11 |
| 16 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 3 |
| 17 | — | — | — | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| Totals | 6,828 | 2,937 | 2,937 | 1,435 | 1,328 | 476 |

Attendances for Treatment 5 to 17 years .. 4,493

### Section II—Details of Treatment

| | Routine | Special and Emergency | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| (*a*) Fillings: | | | |
| (i) Permanent teeth .. .. .. | 1,458 | 188 | 1,646 |
| (ii) Deciduous teeth .. .. .. | 767 | 103 | 870 |
| (*b*) Extractions (excluding orthodontic): | | | |
| (i) Permanent teeth .. .. .. | 112 | 11 | 123 |
| (ii) Deciduous teeth .. .. .. | 621 | 218 | 839 |
| General Anaesthetics .. .. .. .. | — | — | — |
| Other operations—Permanent teeth .. .. | 1,751 | 334 | 2,085 |
| Deciduous teeth .. .. | 294 | 107 | 401 |
| Dentures—Partial .. .. .. .. .. | — | — | 8 |
| Full .. .. .. .. .. | — | — | 1 |
| Radiographs—No. of exposures Intra-oral (Excluding orthodontics) .. | — | — | 23 |
| „ —Extra-Oral .. .. .. | — | — | 12 |

## Section III—Orthodontic Treatment

| | |
|---|---|
| No. of cases continued from previous year | 58 |
| New cases | 15 |
| Cases completed | 22 |
| Cases discontinued | 11 |
| Cases continuing at end of year | 40 |
| Attendances for treatment | 460 |
| No. of consultations with R.H.B. orthodontist | 88 |

| | R.H.B. Consultant | School Dental Officer | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| No. of diagnostic examinations | 14 | | 14 |
| Not followed by treatment | — | | — |
| No. of Cases | | | |
| with removable appliances | 19 | | 19 |
| with fixed appliances | — | | — |
| No. of extractions (non-carious) | | | |
| (i) Permanent teeth | | 14 | 14 |
| (ii) Deciduous teeth | | 25 | 25 |
| Repairs to orthodontic appliances | | 3 | 3 |
| Radiographs—No. of exposures | | | |
| (*a*) Intra-oral | | 6 | 6 |
| (*b*) Extra-oral | | 25 | 25 |

## Section IV—Dental Staff

| | Dental Surgeons | Dental Hygienists | Surgery Assistants |
|---|---|---|---|
| Establishment of posts agreed by Council | 3 | | 3 |
| No. in post at 31/7/66—Wholetime | 1 | | 2 |
| Part-time | 1 | | — |
| Whole-time equivalent of part-time | $\frac{1}{3}$ | | — |
| Total whole-time equivalent | $1\frac{1}{3}$ | | 2 |
| Total half-days worked during year ended 31/7/66: | | | |
| (*a*) in School Health Service | 570 | | |
| (*b*) in Maternity and Child Welfare Service | 51 | | |

## Section V—Allocation of Time

| | Dental Surgeons | Dental Hygienists | Surgery Assistants |
|---|---|---|---|
| Total actual half-days | 621 | | |
| Estimated number of half days occupied in Inspection | 67 | | |
| Dental Health Education | — | | |
| Treatment (other than orthodontics) School | 471 | | |
| Orthodontic treatment | 32 | | |
| Treatment—M. & C. W. | 51 | | |
| Administration (approx.) | — | | |
| Absence due to illness | 12 | | 34 |
| Attending Conferences | 6 | | |
| Total | 639 | | |

## APPENDIX

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

This table is enclosed at the request of the Minister of Labour to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1) of the Factories Act, 1961, to be furnished in their Annual Reports or with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of that Act administered by the County or Town Council. It is not intended to supersede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the Report, but should be attached as an annex.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1966 FOR THE BURGH OF KIRKCALDY IN THE COUNTY OF FIFE

**Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961**
**Part I of the Act**

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occup Prosec |
| (1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities† ..... ..... ..... ..... ..... | 17 | 12 | — | — |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authorities ..... ..... ..... ..... | 300 | 143 | — | — |
| (3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority‡ (including out-workers' premises) ..... | 14 | 14 | — | — |
| TOTAL ... ... | 331 | 169 | — | — |

†To prevent any differences between the lists kept respectively by the Local Authorities and H.M. Inspectors of Factories of the numbers of factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act, 1961, are enforced by Local Authorities, it is requested that Local Authorities should compare their lists of factories with the lists kept by H.M. Inspectors of Factories.

‡i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 123(1)), Institutions (Section 124), sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Section 127), Slaughterhouses (Section 175(1)(*d*) and (*e*)) and Railway Running Sheds (Section 175(2) and (10)).

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | Referred By H.M. Inspector | |
| nt of Cleanliness (S.1) .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| rcrowding (S.2) .. .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| easonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| lequate ventilation (S.4) .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| fective drainage of floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — | — |
| itary conveniences (S.7) : | | | | | |
| ) Insufficient .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| ) Unsuitable or defective .. | 9 | 4 | — | 3 | — |
| ) Not separate for sexes .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| er offences against the Act (not cluding offences relating to ut-work) .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL .. .. | 9 | 4 | — | 3 | — |

## Part VIII of the Act

## OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1) (c)

**Household linen — 1**

DEPARTMENT OF SANITARY AND CLEANSING,
TOWN HOUSE,
KIRKCALDY.
*April*, 1967.

*To the* PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the general sanitary condition of the Burgh and of the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year 1966.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of the Health and Welfare Services Circular No. 4/1967 and is the last one I will be called upon to prepare before my retiral under the age limit in November, 1967.

During my thirty-four years' service with the Town Council it has been my privilege to be associated with the wide-spread clearance of slums and unfit dwellings, the abatement of overcrowding and the betterment of standards in old and new houses. Also a reduction in atmospheric pollution through control over the emission of smoke and grit from factory chimneys, cleaner air following the development of electrical underfloor warming in many new houses, better working conditions in factories, workshops and offices and a marked advance in hygienic conditions of premises where foods are manufactured and sold.

On the public cleansing side one saw the conversion from horse transport to motor transport (which had just begun before I was appointed) and later the closure of six cleansing depots of various kinds extending from Dysart to Bridgeton when centralised premises were provided at Denburn Yard to house the main garage, paper salvage recovery, motor repair workshops and stores under one roof. Soon messrooms for cleansing staff complete with showerbaths, drying rooms for clothing and other facilities will be ready for use. Draft specifications have also been prepared for a refuse disposal plant to be sited at Denburn to meet the future needs of the burgh and to conserve tipping space at Balbarton Tip.

Looking back over the years it has been a period of almost continuous advance in sanitary measures to improve the health and well-being of the community in which the Town Council gave full support

in the many tasks which had to be undertaken. I am also grateful to those business people, tradesmen, shopkeepers and others who made my duties less onerous by their ready response to completion of necessary works which had to be enforced in the interests of public health.

I would also like to acknowledge the ready assistance given me at all times by heads of other departments and particularly to express my appreciation to members of my own staff for their wholehearted co-operation in all duties and responsibilities which had to be undertaken in the best interests of the welfare of the community.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN PAGE,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

# HOUSING

## 1. General Progress

Houses completed and occupied this year were fairly evenly divided between building on new ground and the redevelopment of existing sites, namely at the two temporary housing sites at Overton and Dysart Golf Course and the second stage of the Bridgeton Redevelopment. In all the local authority completed 397 houses during the year. Private developers completed 86 houses while 5 houses were built by the local authority for police purposes.

Kirkcaldy continues to be one of the leading authorities in clearing away its unfit and slum properties and since the end of 1955 just over 3,000 houses have been closed. The majority of house closures this year were concentrated on the phased clearance of worn out aluminium prefabs at Overton and Dysart Golf Course sites to allow redevelopment to proceed, and also houses acquired by the Council in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area. Other closures were distributed throughout the town and in many cases involved property acquired by the Council for redevelopment purposes.

A total of 369 houses were closed during the year, 23 of these were subjects of Closing Orders under Section 9 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1950, 80 were closed voluntarily by the owners, 80 were houses in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area and 184 were aluminium prefabs which were closed and demolished.

Closing orders were withdrawn in respect of 14 houses in multi-ownership at Overton Road and demolition orders applied.

A total of 184 condemned houses were demolished while 6 houses were made fit through modernisation of a closed block of property.

Of the new houses completed by the Council 175 were occupied by families from unfit or closed houses, 44 by overcrowded families, 17 by homeless families, 6 by health cases and 155 from other houses including decanting, exchanges, priority lets for new industry and other transfers. In the reletting of existing Council houses 133 tenants came from unfit or closed houses, 41 from overcrowded houses, 23 were health cases, 145 were homeless or young couples with families in sub-let rooms and 142 were decants, transfers, priority lets or badly housed cases.

The Burgh Factor's waiting list for houses increased from 1,761 at the beginning of the year to 1,884 at the end of the year and was made up as follows: elderly persons and couples 116; homeless families 507 of which 85 have two or more children; 147 health cases; 160 overcrowded families; 8 families living in houses classified as unfit, 694 families not overcrowded in sub-standard housing, wishing houses with modern amenities; 192 badly housed families and 60 applicants about

to be married. There were 513 marriages in the town during 1966 and a number of these young couples would find accommodation in the 213 tenement-type houses advertised for sale during the year.

Five Improvement Grants and 20 Standard Grants were approved to help owner-occupiers, landlords and others to modernise old houses which still had a useful life. The number of Standard Grant applications increased this year and there seems to be a preference for this form of grant rather than the full Improvement Grant when modernising tenement-type houses.

The reasons for this appear to be twofold, firstly the general condition of the property does not need to be up to the twelve point standard required for Discretionary Improvement Grants, and secondly there is no need to have schedules prepared and submit competitive tenders for the works proposed.

This year all the remaining tenement houses in the Overton Road area were surveyed and the area bounded by Overton Road, McKenzie Street and Lorne Street, which comprises some of the poorest property left in the town, was the subject of detailed house-to-house visitations to assess conditions. There are 210 houses in the area, built mainly between 1890 and 1900, and the following statistics were obtained:

109 houses were owner-occupied, 101 were tenanted dwellings; 66% of the houses were of two rooms, 33% had three rooms and 1% had four rooms. Only 7.6% of the houses had sculleries, 5.4% had inside W.C. for own use, and 1.4% or 3 houses out of 210 had a bathroom; 183 houses had shared W.C. for 2 families, 6 had shared W.C. for 3 families and 8 houses had shared W.C. for 4 families.

Approximately 49% of the houses were occupied by one or two person families, over half of which were middle-aged or elderly persons, 21% had three persons, 18% had four persons and 10% had 5 persons or more in the family, the remaining 2% of the houses being empty and for sale.

It was obvious from the information obtained regarding this area that many of these houses will have to be closed in the next three years since apart from the unsatisfactory statistics found, maintenance work was not being done to keep many of the houses in a habitable condition. The Housing Committee will visit this area soon.

The statistical survey of the burgh, revised this year, revealed that out of the 17,157 houses in the town 3,969 were still without bathrooms, 2,240 had no kitchenette, and 2,014 still shared outside toilet accommodation.

Having regard to the above information and housing needs for incoming industries, etc., the officials concerned prepared a realistic housing programme to cover the period to 1970. This included slum

clearance, redevelopment and replacement of temporary houses, meeting existing shortages, allowance for increase in the number of separate households and the needs arising from industrial development and migration.

It was finally agreed that Kirkcaldy's total housing needs for the period was in the region 2,500/2,840 houses. A set of answers to a questionnaire was also prepared and approved by the Town Council for submission to the Sub-Committee on Unfit Housing of the Scottish Housing Advisory Committee whose task is to report on minimum fitness standards for houses and standards for a satisfactory dwelling. Future legislation should leave no doubt about what constitutes fitness and unfitness in a dwellinghouse.

Later in the year, this authority was one of twelve throughout Scotland selected by the Scottish Housing Advisory Committee to test a preliminary version of the Scottish Housing Defects Index. The Index, based on a points system to estimate the degree of unfitness of houses, was field tested on a selection of 50 tenement houses of various types and standards throughout the town. Whilst the schedule proved useful up to a point, it revealed some shortcomings compared with a written factual report in bringing out all the defects existing in a house or property.

It was learned that in view of subsidence risk at The Braes, Dysart, the National Coal Board had agreed it would not be economical to maintain or modernise the houses there, belonging to the Board, and that voluntary closure would be made as soon as the tenants were rehoused or found alternative accommodation. Three houses at High Street, Kirkcaldy, were vacated and closed when a partial collapse of a gable occurred and the property was found to be beyond economical repair.

The question of carrying out joint repairs and improving the sanitary accommodation at two large tenement blocks of houses in Patterson Street was raised with the several owners concerned but replies indicated that few had proposals to bring about improvements. The 48 houses in the three storey tenemental property acquired by the Town Council in Harriet Street was surveyed by a private firm of architects whose report indicated that improvement works could be carried out satisfactorily by reducing the number of houses to 40 at completion. The estimated cost was £70,000.

Suggested areas of housing improvement were again under consideration, particularly in residential parts of the town not likely to be affected by roads or other developments in the long term. The question of starting a pilot scheme for one of these areas was under close investigation at the end of the year.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received in 1966.

Housing reports were prepared concerning 82 houses likely to be acquired by purchasers in terms of the Council's scheme for Housing Act loans, and in 27 cases loans were granted. Some of the houses surveyed for loans were in tenement properties where modernisation was possible with the aid of grants. Ninety plans for improvements or alterations to houses, including the provision of bathrooms, were examined and reported on in conjunction with Burgh Engineer to ensure compliance with Building Regulations.

Visits to houses by Inspectors totalled 3,805 in connection with the survey of unfit houses for report, special district surveys, substandard housing, changes of tenancies, new houses and maintenance of up-to-date housing records.

## 2. Milk Supply

The four registered dairy farms within the Burgh remained in production for the greater part of the year but latterly three of them ceased farming altogether through the rapid development of a large industrial estate in the area. The total average daily output of milk from these farms was 380 gallons, all of which was consigned to the Milk Marketing Board creamery at Glenrothes. There was one exempted dairy at a small holding where two cows are kept, surplus milk being fed to pigs and calves. Regular visits were made to the farms for the purpose of milk sampling as well as carrying out routine inspection of dairy utensils and equipment. The general cleanliness of premises and equipment were found to be satisfactory and this was reflected in the results of milk samples taken, all of which complied with the prescribed regulations.

At the beginning of the year a large dairy firm from Edinburgh moved into the district and acquired dairy premises with pasteurising plant in a village 6 miles north of the town. This firm bought out six of the local private retailers who between them had a daily throughput of 1,150 gallons of milk. As a result of this merger only six private milk retailers were left within the Burgh with a daily turnover of 650 gallons of Premium and Standard milks.

Three registered dairies in the town bottle milk brought in from country farms and they receive regular supervision throughout the year. Improvements included the complete modernisation of one set of dairy premises, with provision of enclosed crate and bottle washing plant, automatic bottle and carton filling equipment and large cold room. The layout of the premises was also altered thus producing a very high standard of hygiene during the progress of bottles and milk through the dairy.

Details of dairy premises registered and licensed in 1966 were as follows:

REGISTRATIONS: MILK AND DAIRIES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1914-22

| | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Dairy Byre capable of housing 90 cows .. .. .. | 4 |
| Milk retailers retailing within the Burgh .. .. .. | 16 |
| Retail shops selling bottled or cartoned milk .. .. | 49 |
| Producers and wholesalers who do not sell by retail .. | 4 |

### 3. Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The following licences were in operation during 1966:

| | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Producers licensed to produce Standard Milk .. .. | 4 |
| Dealers licensed to sell Standard Milk (Wholesale only) | 2 |
| Pasteurisers' licences .. .. .. .. .. | 2 |
| Dealers licensed to sell Premium Milk .. .. .. | 4 |
| Dealers licensed to sell Standard Milk .. .. .. | 16 |
| Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk .. .. .. | 17 |

In addition retailers outwith the Burgh held the following licences:

| | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Supplementary licences to sell Premium Milk .. .. | 2 |
| Supplementary licences to sell Standard Milk .. .. | 1 |
| Supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk .. | 2 |

To ensure compliance with prescribed tests the undernoted milks were submitted to the Fife District Laboratory, Cameron Hospital, Windygates:

| | *Number* | *Conformed* | *Failed* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Premium Milk .. .. .. | 27 | 18 | 9 |
| Standard Milk .. .. .. | 43 | 26 | 17 |
| Local Producers (Standard) .. | 11 | 11 | — |
| Milk Dispensers (Standard) .. | 39 | 17 | 22 |
| Pasteurised Milk: | | | |
| Dairy Samples .. .. .. | 20 | 19 | 1 |
| Schools Samples .. .. .. | 15 | 13 | 2 |
| Vending Machines .. .. | 3 | 3 | — |
| Retail Vans .. .. .. | 6 | 6 | — |
| Shops .. .. .. .. | 13 | 11 | 2 |
| TOTALS .. | 177 | 124 | 53 |

Milk samples failing to comply with prescribed tests were slightly less than the previous year when 56 samples failed. There was an increase in failures with high bacterial counts when 17 samples failed, but failures due to coliform organisms alone showed a decrease over the previous year when 14 failures were reported. Samples with both high counts and coliform organisms present resulted in 21 failures. There was one resazurin test failure. In every instance the milk in question was produced at County farms and information was passed to the respective County Sanitary Inspectors in whose areas the offending premises were situated so that investigations could be carried out by the Milk Officers. There were two instances of three consecutive failures of milk samples and these were both from the same producer whose premises were having attention by County officials. An investigation was carried out at the local dairy where the milk was bottled and samples were also taken of the milk on delivery. As a result the producing farm supply was found to be at fault.

**Milk Vending Machines**

During the year four vending machines owned by a County producer continued to operate in the town, total daily milk sales being approximately 40 gallons. Three samples taken for bacteriological analysis all complied with the prescribed regulations. This was the first year since the installation of these machines that no unsatisfactory results had been found.

**Milk Dispensers**

Altogether 39 samples were taken for bacteriological tests from milk dispensers installed in local dance halls and cafes and results were again disturbing for failures were 10.26% higher than the previous year, and in fact were the highest since these machines were installed. Towards the end of the year, owing to the abnormally high incidence of sample failures, discussions took place with representatives of the Milk Marketing Board when it was agreed that as soon as possible the sale of Standard milk should be discontinued from these dispensers and that Pasteurised (Homogenised) milk in sealed containers should be supplied to the local milk supplier through a large Edinburgh Creamery firm specialising in this particular grade of milk. Results thereafter showed an improvement.

**Pasteurisers**

Throughout the year both the S.C.W.S. Pasteurising Plants at Viewforth and Anderson Street creameries functioned satisfactorily. The refrigeration plant at both creameries was completely overhauled during the year. The daily gallonage of milk passing through the two pasteurising plants was 3,600 and of this 3,050 gallons was consigned to local Co-operative Society shops and vans, whilst the remaining 550 gallons was consigned to local and county schools.

## 4. Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

A total of 295 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst in Dundee, for examination. This total consisted of 91 formal samples of which 4 were reported as not genuine and 204 informal samples, 6 of which were found to be not genuine. Observations of the Public Analyst are included on these samples which received adverse reports:

| | *Number Examined* | *Not Genuine* |
|---|---|---|
| Baking Powder | 1 | |
| Beer | 4 | |
| Bicarbonate of Soda | 1 | |
| Butter | 5 | |
| Cheese and Cheese Products | 2 | |
| Coffee | 2 | |
| Colours and Flavours | 1 | |
| Confections | 3 | |
| Cooking Fat and Oils | 4 | |
| Cream | 2 | |
| Fish Cakes | 3 | |
| Flour | 2 | |
| Fruit and Dried Fruit | 15 | |
| Fruit Juice | 2 | |
| Honey | 1 | |
| Ice Cream | 33 | 2 |
| Ice Lollies | 2 | |
| Jam | 3 | |
| Margarine | 5 | |
| Marzipan | 1 | |
| Meat and Fish Paste | 5 | 1 |
| Meat and Fish Products | 6 | 1 |
| Medicinals | 7 | |
| Milk | 76 | 1 |
| Milk Ice | 2 | |
| Mince | 26 | 3 |
| Mincemeat | 1 | |
| Mineral Waters | 9 | 1 |
| Nuts | 1 | |
| Puddings | 1 | |
| Rum | 2 | 1 |
| Sauces and Pickles | 10 | |
| Sausages | 10 | |
| Soup | 5 | |
| Spices and Condiments | 9 | |
| Vegetables | 5 | |
| Vinegar | 1 | |
| Whisky | 26 | |
| Yoghurt | 1 | |
| | 295 | 10 |

## Milk

The average quality of the milk supply as indicated by the 76 samples analysed was as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Water .. .. | | 86.62% |
| Total Solids .. | | 13.38% |
| Fat .. .. .. | 4.58% | |
| Solids-not-fat .. | 8.80% | |
| | | 100.00% |

The figures show that there was an increase of 0.45% in the average fat content of the milk supply and an increase of 0.33% in the total solids content from that of the previous year.

Of the 76 samples taken, 1 informal sample did not conform to the Board of Agriculture (Sale of Milk) Regulations, 1901. This was a sample of Standard milk which was deficient in solids-not-fat. In this particular case, however, the fat content was high at 12.00% thereby proving the milk had not been properly mixed at the farm or dairy. Verbal warning was given.

## Ice Cream

A summary of the results of analysis is given in the following table:

| | *Fat %* | *Milk Solids-not-fat %* |
|---|---|---|
| Average .. .. | 7.64 | 11.52 |
| Maximum .. .. | 10.10 | 16.00 |
| Minimum .. .. | 2.40 | 7.56 |

There were 33 ice-cream samples (17 formal and 16 informal) and 2 formal milk ice samples taken. Two of the informal ice-cream samples were found to be deficient in fat while the other samples submitted conformed to the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959.

## Mince

Three official samples of mince were found to contravene regulations, one sample showing a trace of preservatives while 2 samples indicated the presence of ascorbic acid to the extent of 48 and 190 parts per million respectively. In the latter case for this infringement of the Meat (Treatment) (Scotland) Regulations, 1964, the seller was fined £10.

### Mineral Waters

Nine informal samples of mineral waters were submitted for analysis. Of these, 1 was found to contravene the Soft Drinks (Scotland) Regulations, 1964, in that as the amount of sugar contained in the sample was 18.1% it was deficient by 4.4%. Correspondence and further samples proved that the fault at the factory had been taken care of.

### Meat and Fish Products

Of the five informal samples submitted one sample of a meat product was deficient by 9% in meat content. The total meat content of the sample was 61%. All stocks of the meat product concerned were immediately withdrawn.

One fish product was found to be wrongly labelled. On this occasion also, the stocks were withdrawn from sale when the infringement was brought to the attention of the local producer.

### Rum

One formal sample of rum was reported contravening the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956, Section 6, sub-section 1, in that the information supplied with the sample falsely indicated that the strength of the sample was 70° Proof, when, in fact the strength of the sample was 69.2° Proof. This was newly delivered stock and adulteration was not suspected. Other bottles were checked and further test samples taken, but these were found to be in order. The importer was notified of the infringement.

### General Remarks

The other 287 samples not specifically mentioned were of good quality and conformed to the various regulations governing their sale. The adulteration rate of 2.71% for 1966 was considerably lower than the percentage for previous years.

## 5. Food Premises and Hygiene

A total of 1,065 inspections and visits were made to food premises, including 389 inspections of mobile shops and vans. Apart from numerous verbal recommendations and advice given by Inspectors to staff and management 74 letters were sent in terms of the Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations, 1959, relating to items requiring attention. Although the general standard of hygiene was found to be reasonably satisfactory fairly regular supervision must be given to some premises to ensure compliance with the regulations. Complaints raised in the

Health Committee referred to staff seen smoking while serving or handling food or drink, also food exposed to dust or contamination outside shop fronts or at the doorway. To deal with these complaints circular letters were sent to the occupiers of 73 public houses, hotels and clubs drawing attention to Regulation 6(*e*) which states *inter alia*:

> "A person while engaged in the handling of food shall refrain from smoking or chewing tobacco or spitting or taking snuff."

It was further emphasised that the main danger to health concerns the hand to mouth contact with cigarettes and pipes then handling with unwashed hands such items as draught beer, for example, where overflowing beer or froth sometimes comes into contact with hands.

A further 376 letters were sent to occupiers of food shops, canteens, hotels, restaurants, bakeries, etc., expressing the Committee's desire that cleanliness in handling food in shops should be maintained at the highest level. It was pointed out that all unwrapped foods were liable to contamination through unnecessary and careless handling, exposure to dust during sweeping and cleaning up and while in storage. Particular care was necessary with foods which were eaten without being cooked and also such foods as meat-products, made-up meat dishes, cream, artificial cream, stored moist foods, and in hotels and restaurants, gravies, stews, and pre-cooked meals. Seven points were listed as important when handling food:

1. Prevention of initial contamination. Provide clean premises and equipment.
2. Scrupulous personal cleanliness. Change overalls regularly.
3. Immediate attention to septic sores, wounds and cuts. Use waterproof dressings.
4. Washing of hands after every use of sanitary convenience.
5. Withdrawal of any personnel showing any symptoms of food poisoning.
6. No smoking while handling food.
7. Control of animals, insects and rodents in all food premises.

Opportunity was also taken during each visit by Inspectors to continue the education of food handlers in the ways of clean food. While much has been achieved in this direction it was noted that more must be done. Too many forget that it is the daily, weekly and monthly routine of cleaning which is so important and not just superficial attention to please the eye. Care in respect of the length of time articles of food may be kept in a refrigerator as opposed to deep freeze conditions also needs to be more widely known and manufacturers' directions should be closely followed by staff and also the housewife using this medium for food storage.

Inspections of mobile shops and vans led to one firm adopting our advice of employing separate staff for cleaning the inside of their vehicles. This method is to be recommended where a number of vans are used by one firm for a higher standard of hygiene results along with more satisfactory control by management. Warnings were issued in respect of 5 butchery vans and 2 bread vans. There were 63 food stalls and vans at the Links Market this year and 266 visits were made during the five-day "fair" period to ensure conformity with the regulations. Most of the stallholders maintained a satisfactory standard but one or two did not come up to requirements and may not be allowed back when stances come up for consideration again.

Three small bakehouses closed down this year and one of these, much below standard, was demolished for site redevelopment.

Some 38 complaints relating to extraneous materials in food were investigated including bread wrapping paper contaminated by lead chromate powder in transit to a local bakery, mould affecting cakes and sausages, odour in lemonade, mouse droppings in meat, rubber ring embedded in meat paste and a cigarette butt in a pie. In each case after thorough investigation warnings were given to the firms concerned.

The Food Hygiene (Scotland) Amendment Regulations, 1966, come into force on 29th July, 1967. They prescribe more stringent requirements to regulate the hygiene and construction, condition and layout of stalls and vehicles used in a food business and require the installation of washing facilities, adequate ventilation, lighting and first-aid equipment. The regulations also require the name and address of the operator and the base from which he operates if different, to be shown on the stall or vehicle.

### 6. Unsound Food

Regular weekly visits were made to various wholesale grocery warehouses in addition to periodic visits to shops to inspect and condemn unsound food. Some 427 inspections were made resulting in the undernoted foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered for destruction, mainly by burial at the refuse tip.

| | *lbs.* | *ozs.* |
|---|---|---|
| Fresh Fruit .. .. .. .. | 2 | 8 |
| Canned Fruit .. .. .. | 5,852 | 12¼ |
| Fresh Vegetables .. .. .. | 374 | 0 |
| Canned Vegetables .. .. .. | 3,592 | 13⅔ |
| Fresh Fish .. .. .. .. | 25 | 0 |
| Canned Fish .. .. .. .. | 133 | 4⅝ |
| Fresh Meat .. .. .. .. | 355 | 6 |
| Canned Meat .. .. .. | 7,906 | 1⅛ |
| Canned Meat and Vegetables .. | 133 | 2¼ |

| | *lbs.* | *ozs.* |
|---|---|---|
| Canned Milk and Cream .. .. | 286 | $5\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Canned Soup .. .. .. | 2,265 | $1\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Jam .. .. .. .. .. | 392 | $1\frac{3}{4}$ |
| Canned Pudding .. .. .. | 1,177 | 12 |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .. | 1,603 | $7\frac{1}{3}$ |
| | 24,099 | 12 |

## 7. Meat

From 11th November, 1966, the F.M.C. (Meat) Limited took over the running and management of the Public Abattoir on behalf of the Town Council, all in agreement with the Local Butchers Association. The duties of the local authority are now primarily concerned with meat inspection which will be undertaken by a full-time meat inspector assisted on busy days by a qualified inspector from the Sanitary Department.

The disposal of condemned meat through the Iwel plant at the Abattoir will be continued under the new management, so no unsound meat will leave the premises.

All animals slaughtered were inspected in terms of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations (Scotland), 1932, and the Food (Meat Inspection) (Scotland) Regulations, 1961. Statistics are shown on page 60.

Although the abattoir is of good structure and condition the effect of the Food (Preparation and Distribution of Meat) (Scotland) Regulations, 1963, will be that lighting and ventilation needs improvement and the layout in the slaughtering bays will require to be altered to avoid contamination by the crossing of clean and dirty products.

The question of fitting a mechanical stoker to the coal-fired boiler plant used for steam raising purposes or replacing the boiler altogether with a modern unit has not yet been resolved. The steam demand for possible increased throughput of livestock following the agreement with the F.M.C. (Meat) Limited will have some bearing on the type of plant to be installed.

## MEAT INSPECTION

### Meat found to be unfit for human consumption during the year ended 31st December 1966 at Kirkcaldy Public Abattoir

| Diseases | Cattle excluding Calves | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Totals |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Tuberculosis: | | | | | |
| (*a*) Whole carcases unfit .. | 2 | — | — | 3 | 5 |
| (*b*) Carcases of which some part was unfit .. .. .. | 5 | — | — | 193 | 198 |
| (*c*) Organs only unfit .. .. | 5 | — | — | 22 | 27 |
| 2. Cysticercosis: | | | | | |
| (*a*) Whole carcases unfit .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| (*b*) Carcases affected but passed after treatment by refrigeration .. .. .. .. | 6 | — | — | — | 6 |
| 3. Actinobacillosis and Actinomycosis: | | | | | |
| (*a*) Whole carcases unfit .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| (*b*) Carcases of which some part was unfit .. .. .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| (*c*) Organs only unfit .. .. | 41 | — | — | — | 41 |
| 4. Trichinosis: Whole carcases unfit .. .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5. Septicaemia (fevered carcases): Whole carcases unfit .. .. | 2 | — | 6 | — | 8 |
| 6. Bruising and Injury: | | | | | |
| (*a*) Whole carcases unfit .. | 4 | — | 12 | 1 | 17 |
| (*b*) Carcases of which some part was unfit .. .. .. | 16 | — | 8 | 8 | 32 |
| 7. All other conditions: | | | | | |
| (*a*) Whole carcases unfit .. | 10 | 11 | 43 | 22 | 86 |
| (*b*) Carcases of which some part was unfit .. .. .. | 14 | — | 31 | 21 | 66 |
| (*c*) Organs only unfit .. .. | 2,471 | 3 | 1,109 | 269 | 3,852 |
| 8. Total items 1 to 7 above, excluding the figures at 2(*b*) of item 2 .. | 2,570 | 14 | 1,209 | 539 | 4,332 |
| 9. Total number of animals inspected during the year at the slaughterhouse | 7,119 | 232 | 22,106 | 4,848 | 34,305 |

## 8. Ice Cream Premises

In terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, the following premises and vehicles were registered by the Town Council at 31st December, 1965:

| | |
|---|---|
| Premises (Manufacture, Storage and/or Sale) .. .. | 6 |
| Premises (Manufacture, Storage) .. .. .. | 2 |
| Premises (Manufacture) .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Premises (Storage only) .. .. .. .. .. | 1 |
| Premises (Storage and Sale) .. .. .. .. | 5 |
| Vehicles (Sale only) .. .. .. .. .. | 39 |

In addition to the above, pre-wrapped ice cream was sold from 113 other premises, which is an increase of 6 from the previous year.

The figures show a decrease of 2 in premises registered for storage and sale and a decrease of 2 in the number of vehicles registered for sale. During the course of the year one combined factory and shop changed hands and one storage depot serving a large number of vans closed down. One set of premises was registered for the manufacture and storage of ice cream products.

The total number of visits paid to the various manufacturing and retail premises in 1966 was 26 mainly for the purpose of routine inspection of plant and equipment. Generally speaking the premises were found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and the standard of cleanliness of both premises and equipment was found to be good.

Faults discovered, however, were careless handling of plant and inadequate cleaning and sterilising of equipment which affected bacterial results of samples.

Samples taken from one retail shop showed the presence of coliform bacilli in the first two samples. Four subsequent samples, however, were all satisfactory.

Five unsatisfactory samples were got from a combined shop and small ice cream factory. On each occasion the premises were visited when it was found that inefficient washing and sterilisation of equipment was the likely cause. Instruction in proper cleaning methods and follow-up samples continued into the next year and the results of another 6 samples proved to be satisfactory.

A sample taken from another shop showed a high bacterial count but 3 further samples were found to be in order.

Samples of pre-packed ice cream taken from two restaurants were found to indicate the presence of coliform bacilli. Follow-up samples were taken and these were found to be clear. Again it was noted on investigation that strict attention was not being paid to proper methods of cleaning equipment.

A sample of ice cream taken from an outside manufacturer's van retailing in Kirkcaldy also revealed the presence of coliform bacilli but a follow-up sample proved to be satisfactory. The matter was brought to the attention of the County Sanitary Inspector.

During the year 44 samples of ice cream and milk ice were taken for bacteriological examination. Of this number 11 failed to comply with the standards laid down by the Central Department. Failures totalled 25% compared with 12½% in 1965.

Ice cream vehicles were also inspected and generally these were found to be well maintained, very clean and supplied with hand washing facilities.

The following table gives detailed results of samples taken:

| Bacterial Range | No. | No. with Coliform Bacilli |
|---|---|---|
| 0 — 500 | 11 | 1 |
| 501 — 1,000 | 2 | — |
| 1,001 — 5,000 | 14 | 2 |
| 5,001 — 10,000 | 5 | — |
| 10,001 — 15,000 | 2 | 2 |
| 15,001 — 25,000 | 3 | 2 |
| 25,001 — 50,000 | 3 | 1 |
| 50,000 and over | 1 | — |
| Uncountable | 3 | 2 |
| TOTAL | 44 | 10 |

Thirty-three samples of ice cream and two of milk ice were submitted for analysis in terms of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959. A summary of results of analysis of these samples is given under Section 4 of this report.

### 9. Shops Act

The Town Council made the usual order suspending the general closing hours for seven days during the Christmas and New Year period with the proviso that the obligations of shopkeepers towards their assistants were implemented. No infringements were reported or discovered.

Several enquiries were made by firms regarding the employment of young persons and there was one anonymous complaint of excessive hours being worked by a young person, which could not be verified. Enquiries usually come from hairdressers because of evening and night work when demonstrations are being given.

Most shops connected with the outfitting and tailoring trades close all day on Wednesday and this is still the popular day for the early closing of other shops in the town. The display of a notice near the shop entrance stating the early closing day took some time to be applied, particularly among small shopkeepers, in terms of the Shops (Early Closing Days) Act, 1965. It is important nowadays for a customer to know the day and time on which a shop is closed.

Routine Shops Act inspections were frequently carried out in conjunction with visits made to shops in terms of the Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations or the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act. In addition 90 visits were made to shops where no food was handled or no assistants employed.

The various classes of shops trading in the town in 1966 are listed below:

| *Type of Business* | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Baby Linen Shops | 6 |
| Bakers | 41 |
| Barbers and Hairdressers | 38 |
| Butchers | 37 |
| Boot and Shoe Shops | 27 |
| Cafes | 11 |
| Car Show Rooms | 3 |
| Clothiers | 24 |
| Confectioners | 20 |
| Chemists | 17 |
| Drapers | 28 |
| Dry Cleaners | 6 |
| Electrical Shops | 18 |
| Filling Stations | 14 |
| Fish and Chip Shops | 18 |
| Fishmongers | 10 |
| Fruiterers and Greengrocers | 13 |
| Garages | 5 |
| General Merchants | 72 |
| General Stores | 4 |

| *Type of Business* | *Number* |
|---|---|
| Grocers | 33 |
| Household Requisites | 27 |
| Hardware | 3 |
| Jewellers | 10 |
| Licensed Grocers | 25 |
| Milliners | 5 |
| Miscellaneous | 65 |
| Newsagents | 18 |
| Opticians | 8 |
| Paint Shops | 14 |
| Photographers | 5 |
| Post Offices and Sub Post Offices | 13 |
| Public Houses | 30 |
| Restaurants | 4 |
| S.C.W.S. Shops | 1 |
| Seedsmen | 2 |
| Supermarkets | 5 |
| Tobacconists | 4 |
| Vacant | 17 |
| Wholesale Warehouses and Shops | 14 |
| | 715 |

**10. Places of Public Refreshment**

In 1966 there were 30 premises listed in the register for places of public refreshment. During the course of the year two premises closed down, three premises changed ownership and three premises opened up. Forty inspections were made in terms of local byelaws.

In general a good standard of cleanliness and hygiene was found. One cafe which opened during the year was required to reduce seating accommodation since only one W.C. was provided on the premises.

Our observations and recommendations were again made known in connection with proposals for snack bars, licensed premises, hotels and dance halls which provided for meals being served as part of the business.

## GENERAL SANITATION

### 11. Nuisances and Sanitary Defects

During the year 350 complaints were received from members of the public and a further 41 nuisances or sanitary defects were discovered by Inspectors in the course of their duties. Some of the alleged nuisances were of a trivial nature which did not warrant any action being taken while in a number of other cases the complaint was rectified immediately it was brought to the attention of the parties concerned, especially where tenants or owner-occupiers were involved. The abatement of nuisances required 1,134 inspections and revisits.

There were 110 intimations and notices served in terms of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892.

The following table shows the number and type of nuisances dealt with during the year:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Dirty houses and premises cleaned .. .. | 17 |
| 2. | Dirty W.C. apartments cleansed .. .. | 8 |
| 3. | Dirty stairs and passages cleaned .. .. | 15 |
| 4. | Dirty areas and courts cleaned .. .. .. | 43 |
| 5. | Dampness in houses abated or improved .. | 92 |
| 6. | Defective sinks, tubs, wash hand basins and baths renewed .. .. .. .. .. | 4 |
| 7. | Defective water closets repaired or renewed .. | 14 |
| 8. | Defective W.C. apartments repaired .. .. | 6 |
| 9. | Defective rhones, waste pipes, etc., repaired .. | 17 |
| 10. | Defective roofs repaired or renewed .. .. | 20 |
| 11. | Chocked drains and traps cleared .. .. | 67 |
| 12. | Defective floors repaired or renewed .. .. | 6 |
| 13. | General housing defects remedied .. .. | 25 |
| 14. | Accumulation of rubbish removed .. .. | 31 |
| 15. | Nuisances caused by hens, cats and dogs .. | 9 |
| 16. | Nuisances caused by stray pigeons .. .. | 44 |
| 17. | Verminous houses sprayed and fumigated .. | 2 |
| 18. | Other insect pest conditions treated .. .. | 80 |
| 19. | Miscellaneous nuisances .. .. .. | 189 |
| | | 709 |

Information about some of the more important nuisances dealt with indicates the wide variety of subjects now coming under this heading.

After a three-month interval from the end of 1965 with no complaints the foreshore smell returned to the South Esplanade area and grew worse again in the warmer weather of late spring and early summer. Meantime the bus operating firm nearby had altered and renewed the drainage systems from the garage wash-beds and a small canteen so that no discharges from the premises went seawards except roof rainwater. Trial excavations by bulldozer on the beach at the contaminated area of wet sand revealed a black oily layer in a bed of sea-coal 2 to 4 feet below the surface with much water running through this. Later four large diameter porous concrete pipes were sunk in the same area of beach by the Town Council in an attempt to get the oil to filter towards these points. This did not meet with much success, but more representative samples of the contaminating material were obtained for test and analysis. When the Public Analyst reported that in his opinion the contamination was due mainly to the presence of diesel oil the Town Council served a notice on the garage firm calling upon them to abate the nuisance within a period of three months. Trenching action was started by the firm on the foreshore immediately behind the garage in an endeavour to seal off any movement of diesel oil from their premises but early winter storms refilled the trench with sand and further works had to be postponed until the better weather of next year. It will be recalled the firm reported a loss of diesel oil in 1965 due to fracture of underground pipes leading from the storage tank to the pump station in the yard.

Two nuisance complaints referred to sawdust discharge into the atmosphere near dwelling houses. Both were associated with woodturning and furniture manufacturing businesses where cyclones were fitted to reduce nuisance. In one case the works are still under observation but at the other the firm was urged to completely roof-in the discharge point for loading vehicles and fit large doors to contain the fine sawdust within the premises as much as possible. Another dust complaint referred to the loading of ashes from a boiler plant at a modern hospital and some improvement was affected. A new incinerator was commissioned and put into use at the hospital which should speed-up the disposal of ward and theatre wastes more quickly and efficiently.

A strong smell of phenols arose for some time when the discontinued gas works on the Esplanade was being demolished along with the adjoining gas holders. The Gas Board co-operated in every way to avoid nuisance but heavy rains during demolition works caused gatherings of foul-smelling liquid to arise at the base of the holders which had to be pumped to sea at suitable tides. The huge holes left when the gas holders were cleared away were filled in with house and trade demolitions and surfaces sealed with blinding materials when the smell ceased.

An anonymous complaint was received about the collection of bones from butchers' shops by a private firm using an open lorry and

suggesting that the department should do something about it. It was agreed that bone handling caused unpleasant smells in warm weather and also attracted flies, wherever stored. The firm was recommended to consider galvanised containers with lids on the vehicle and Inspectors were asked to give close attention to bone storage on butchers' premises.

Dumping of soot, household refuse, old furniture and linoleum was noted to be on the increase at derelict properties awaiting demolition and over the Braes, particularly in the Dysart area. Efforts were made to have a number of properties demolished which had stood empty too long and the Police were informed of some sites in the town where soot-dumping was done fairly regularly so that further action could be taken against offenders. Dumping of rubbish and flooding of garden ground by surface water from the woodlands beyond Dunnikier private development were also brought to the attention of the parties concerned.

Twenty-two letters were sent to owners and occupiers of houses in two tenemental properties in Nicol Street regarding regular cleaning of common back areas, common stairs and common passages following clearance of all rubbish and refuse lying there by the Cleansing Department. Action of a similar nature was necessary at Overton Road houses.

Nuisance from tinkers staying for periods in the Boreland Woods and annoying residents in Boreland led to a joint meeting with representatives of Fife County Council, Wemyss Estates and members of the Health Committee. Wemyss Estates offered another site further away from Boreland but still in the same locality; here water and other amenities could be provided to reduce the risk of insanitary conditions arising. The matter was still under consideration at the end of the year. Byelaws are in course of preparation for dealing with tents and vans.

There are now very few piggeries and stables within the burgh. Visits to these premises totalled 32 and no serious infringements of byelaws were found.

Nuisance of a public health nature was reduced to a minimum during the five-day fair at the Links Market, due to suitable preparations made beforehand.

Notices in respect of painting or whitewashing closes, passages and stairs at dwellinghouses totalled 21. With the demolition of so many old properties in the town, public closes, which were regularly limewashed by the Town Council, are now few in number. The only one likely to remain in the future will be Adam Smith Close at High Street leading to the Esplanade.

**12. Rats and Mice**

On 31st May, 1966, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

for Scotland dispensed with the necessity for local authorities to submit a separate annual report under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The results of our activities for the control of rats and mice is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Number of properties inspected .. .. | 698 |
| 2. | Number found infested with rats or mice .. | 165 |
| 3. | Number cleared of rats or mice .. .. | 143 |
| 4. | Number of manholes baited .. .. .. | — |
| 5. | Total estimated kill of rats .. .. .. | 666 |
| 6. | Total estimated kill of mice .. .. .. | 266 |
| 7. | Income from services at private properties .. | £14 12s. 6d. |

Modern rodenticides are used to control rats and mice but for general use Warfarin mixed with oatmeal by the rat-catcher is found to give fairly successful results and regular takes. Mice infestations have been considerably reduced this year using a narcotic bait.

One heavy infestation of rats occurred at the Tiel Burn and the tributaries running into this water course not far from Balbarton refuse tip. At the time of the complaint by adjoining occupiers the tip was remarkably clear of rats so joint action between Fife County, Raith Estate, occupiers of adjoining farms and ourselves were put into effect to bring the infestation under control. Two factors contributed to the infestation, one of which was unusual. Firstly, the wet weather and bad grain harvest of the previous year led to a lot of straw and fallen grain being left in the fields which provided food, shelter and breeding grounds for rats for about six months. When this food supply was exhausted the rats had moved to the banks of the Tiel Burn, part of which is tree-lined, but several hundred yards away from the tip. The ground under the trees was found to be littered with chicken bones, margarine and butter papers and even empty cream cartons while rat-runs from the burn banking criss-crossed the area. Observation showed that the chicken bones, and other waste foods were brought over to the trees from the refuse tip by crows and when they had partaken of what meat or food they could recover the bones fell to the ground to feed the rats with what was left. At this quiet, out-of-the-way place the rats were feeding and breeding almost undisturbed.

Extensive measures were put into effect to bring the infestation under control before the new breeding season started and considerable success in this direction was obtained. Later some permanent baiting points were set up in the area to kill off any rats that may seek to settle near the trees beside the burn for no way has been found yet to stop the crows from carrying chicken bones to this convenient roost.

The annual advertisements in local papers in March again asked the public to co-operate by notifying the presence of rats or mice on lands and premises and to take steps to destroy them. Inspectors in the course of visits to food premises, stables, piggeries, and other premises likely to harbour or attract vermin advised on control methods where necessary. The Town Council agreed to culvert a section of the East Burn behind Simpson Street, an area where rats have been seen, and it is likely this will be extended to the burn within the grounds of the East Fife Hospitals Board on the one side and Nairn-Williamson's trade waste tip on the other. Rats in a banking near maltings at Pathhead Sands were brought under control by the firm's own staff.

Mr. Archibald Rowan, who has been a very capable rat-catcher and pest operator in the department since 1955, retired in October but resumed work on a part-time basis at the end of the year.

**13. Infectious Diseases**

Work connected with infectious diseases called for investigation into 335 cases comprising: Dysentery 116; Enteritis 100; Diarrhoea 39; Food Poisoning 4; Salmonella 2; Hepatitis 26; Scarlet Fever 37; Jaundice 6; Erysipelas 4; and Encephalitis 1.

A report was sent to the Medical Officer of Health on all cases investigated and intimations of the occurrence of infectious disease was notified to headmasters of local schools in 59 instances.

**14. Water Supply**

The Water Engineer reported that rainfall at Lothrie for the year 1966 was 41.87 inches which was 4.97 inches in excess of the long average. The reservoirs were at full capacity at 15th May, 1966, and only 35 million gallons below full capacity at 31st December. The Rothes Borehole supply was not in use during the year. Consumption of water was equivalent to 57 gallons per head of the population per day and the nett domestic consumption per head was 43.57 gallons.

All water is treated with chlorine prior to entering the distribution system. Water from the catchment area at Carberry is treated by chloramine process, whereby with the addition of ammonia gas, a longer chlorine retention period is achieved allowing chlorine to be carried forward to combat any possible later pollution.

Few complaints were received by the Sanitary Inspector about the Water Supply but as a routine measure the undernoted samples were taken to ascertain that purity and quality of supply was maintained at a high level.

| *Type of Sample* | *No. Taken* | *Satisfactory* | *Unsatisfactory* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Chemical .. .. | 5 | 5 | — |
| Bacteriological .. | 17 | 14 | 3 |

The three unsatisfactory results referred to samples taken from temporary water standpipes and local contamination through inadequate flushing of the water mains could not be ruled out. Included in the samples submitted for chemical analysis was one from the well at Balbarton Tip cottages outwith the burgh area to note if any surface contamination had resulted from recent infillings following well improvements. The results obtained were fairly similar to the previous ones got from this supply.

### 15. Factories

There were 331 premises on the register and 169 inspections were made to ensure compliance with health standards. In nine cases sanitary conveniences were unsuitable or defective and managements were informed. Three of the cases were referred to the department by H.M. Inspector of Factories. Four defects were remedied at the end of the year leaving five outstanding.

One outworker was notified in terms of Part VIII of the Factories Act, 1961.

Plans were approved for the erection of 2 new factories and for major, minor and other alterations at 28 factories, some of which also included improved sanitary accommodation.

### 16. Lodging Houses

No premises in the town are now used as a common lodging house.

### 17. Smoke, Grit, Fumes

A total of 72 visits and inspections were made to industrial boiler-house plants and central heating units this year whilst 10 smoke observations were taken of works chimneys. The improvement in atmospheric pollution from industrial sources continued and it can be said that 95% of local industrial concerns now comply with the provisions of the Clean Air Act. A forge and hydraulic press shop, which had partially converted to oil two years ago, completed the conversion to oil from coal and almost overnight a 100% improvement in atmospheric pollution took place in this particular area compared with the black smoke of bygone days. Excessive emissions of smoke from a large laundry were investigated and found to be due to temporary hand-firing of the boiler when broken links in the chain-grate stoker were under repair. A complaint of excessive smoke emission from a hospital incinerator was lodged by tenants in a multi-storey building. Investigation revealed that the gas jets were defective and only partial combustion of the refuse was taking place. On our recommendation modifications to the incinerator were effected and the nuisance was abated. The new gas-fired incinerator at Victoria Hospital was com-

pleted and went into service this year and the overworked small incinerator plant, which often caused offence, will soon be dismantled.

Poor quality of fuel was found to be responsible for the excessive emission of smoke from a large spinning mill and this matter was again taken up with the National Coal Board along with another complaint of poor quality coal causing a smoky discharge. Four complaints regarding excessive smoke emission from central heating installations at schools were dealt with and as a result of correspondence with County officials a change of fuel was introduced in an attempt to minimise the smoke nuisance. It is likely that smokeless fuels will be in general use soon at all schools fired with solid fuel.

Afterwards the Health Committee suggested to the County Council that a phased programme of modernisation of school heating systems in the burgh should be considered and later it was learned that the General Sub-Committee of the Education Committee had agreed to do this and had asked the County Architect to submit proposals for consideration.

Complaints regarding excessive smoke from steam locomotives and fumes from diesel locomotives while standing at Kirkcaldy Station led to a meeting with British Rail officials at the Town House. It was learned that everything was being done to abate these nuisances through instruction of the firemen staff. A diesel engine now works on coal transport from the Frances Pit, Dysart, to the main line thus eliminating smoke, grit and noise nuisance (the latter only to some extent) in a Dysart housing area beside which the coal train must pass.

The burning of old electrical cable in an open yard for copper scrap recovery created complaints from nearby householders and occasional nuisance was also caused at another site while waste from scrap motor cars was burnt. This type of smoke nuisance will have to be carefully watched or it could defeat our endeavours to bring about a clean atmosphere.

A grit nuisance of some severity was reported to exist in the industrial part of the town and while householders were not involved in this instance one firm claimed it affected the surfaces of semi-finished and finished steel products in their workshops because of its gritty nature. After much investigation at nearby industrial premises it was discovered during the overhaul of powerhouse boiler plant of one firm that the outlet from a grit arrestor was choked and the fan blades heavily corroded; this meant that for a time all the grit from one boiler had been discharged direct to the atmosphere. The grit nuisance ceased when repairs to the grit arrestor were completed.

New boiler plant installations notified this year included 23 gas-fired units, 6 oil-fired units, 1 coal-fired unit with under-feed stoker and 3 conversions from coal to oil. Twelve notifications were received

in terms of section 3 (3) of the Clean Air Act, 1956, informing the Local Authority of intention to install new furnaces or make extensive alterations to existing plant. In all cases where plans were submitted to the Dean of Guild Court in respect of chimney heights, our recommendations were accepted.

On the domestic side of atmospheric pollution draft proposals were prepared by the officials concerned relating to the formation of a phased programme of smoke control areas for consideration by the Health Committee. Later it was agreed to proceed with nine smoke control areas between 1967 and 1970 and bring the whole town under smoke control orders between 1970 and 1980 or earlier if possible. Plans and relative particulars of these proposals were submitted to the Central Department.

With the early development of smoke control areas, members of the Health Committee visited the Rexco Plant at Comrie Colliery to see for themselves how smokeless fuel was manufactured. Two assistant Sanitary Inspectors attended a two-day course on the practical aspects of work relating to smoke control areas organised by the Coal Utilisation Council and a visit will be made soon by members of staff to the City of Dundee to gain information on the day-to-day work likely to be involved in the operation of domestic smoke control.

A letter was sent to five private building firms erecting houses for sale in the town drawing attention to possible future smoke control orders affecting houses now being built, and asking their co-operation in respect of grates being installed to meet the full requirements of the Act since no grant was available to owners or occupiers of new houses, the erection of which was begun on or after 16 August, 1964.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS

The following summary of analyses is based on information kindly supplied by Mr. Ronald S. Nicolson, F.R.I.C., Public Analyst for the burgh, from samples collected in the Deposit Gauges and on Lead Peroxide Candles throughout 1966.

**Deposit Gauge Samples**

| *Site* | *Average monthly rainfall in inches* | | | | *Average monthly deposit of solid matter in tons per sq. mile* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Loughborough Road | 1966 2.69 | 1965 2.61 | 1964 1.95 | 1963 2.45 | 1966 10.99 | 1965 11.76 | 1964 8.75 | 1963 10.93 |
| 2. Denburn Yard | 2.66 | 2.60 | 1.87 | 2.50 | 11.69 | 12.35 | 12.31 | 13.37 |

| Average overall deposit in tons per square mile | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 136.08 | 144.65 | 126.4 | 145.6 |

These figures indicate that the deposits in both cases are lower than last year's figures even although rainfall recorded was slightly higher.

**Lead Peroxide Candles**

| *Site* | *Average Sulphur Pollution in mgm $SO_3$/100 sq.cm/day* | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 |
| No. 1 .. | 0.68 | 0.72 | 0.72 | 0.77 | 0.80 | 0.83 | 0.87 |
| No. 2 .. | 0.46 | 0.49 | 0.52 | 0.55 | 0.95 | 0.70 | 0.70 |
| No. 3 .. | 0.31 | 0.31 | 0.37 | 0.39 | 0.41 | 0.36 | 0.47 |
| No. 4 .. | 0.58 | 0.61 | 0.51 | 0.57 | 0.63 | 0.63 | 0.78 |
| Average .. | 0.51 | 0.53 | 0.53 | 0.57 | 0.70 | 0.63 | 0.71 |

It can be seen from these figures that the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere as measured by these Lead Peroxide Candles has again fallen. The average figure is the lowest it has ever been in any year since analyses have been carried out.

**18. Burial Grounds**

Burial grounds were visited periodically throughout the year and found to be well maintained by the Parks Department.

Cremations at the Corporation Crematorium, Dunnikier, totalled 1,361, an increase of 183 over the previous year. The Town Council agreed to take no objection to a proposal that accredited representatives of the Federation of British Cremation Authorities be permitted to visit the premises in connection with the operation of the crematorium.

The Kirk Session of Abbotshall Church submitted a revised scheme of extension from which it appeared that only one lair was affected and perhaps marginally another two in the churchyard. This revised scheme was approved subject to the condition that the Church would undertake to satisfy themselves and the Council as custodians of the churchyard that there were no objections to the proposals from other interested parties.

**19. Rivers Pollution**

The appointed date under Section I of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act, 1965, was 2nd November, 1966, for applications to be submitted to the Forth River Purification Board for consent to discharge sewage into the River Forth and the necessary action was taken on behalf of the Town Council. One small firm with a discharge from a septic tank on to the beach was also notified of this requirement.

As indicated in last year's report most of the sewage from the town is discharged into the river without treatment, a situation which calls for remedy soon in view of the programme for burgh extension as well as the existing unsatisfactory position.

Pollution of any kind was not noticed at the East and West Burns this year. The flow of the West burn was restricted for a short period when a storm brought down branches and similar debris which accumulated under the bridge at the Esplanade and had to be cleared by hand.

**20. Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls**

The inadequate heating of rooms at Pathhead school was brought to the attention of those concerned and some improvement was effected. Several defects, particularly relating to sanitary accommodation, also needed attention. School kitchens and serveries generally were found to be clean and well maintained. Twenty-three visits were made to schools in 1966.

It was agreed with the County Health Department that we would follow their line of taking two samples per term from each school swimming pool within the town for the coliform test and more frequent checks on the amounts of free chlorine in these waters. This year, four swimming pool waters were submitted for the coliform test of which one was unsatisfactory; the one sample sent for chemical analysis complied with recommended standards.

Forty-nine visits were made to cinemas, public buildings and dance halls, mainly prior to the granting of annual licences. Conditions found were good and only a few minor infringements were asked to be remedied.

**21. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises**

Inspections carried out totalled 656 including 521 general inspections and by the end of the year 648 premises were registered with the Local Authority, 51 of this total having been added during 1966.

Improved standards were noted in many cases although it was noticeable that where only a small staff was employed the employer seldom favoured the provision of running hot water without adequate and convincing explanation for its need. In the course of the year some 260 letters were sent calling for requirements to comply with the Act and 140 verbal warnings were given. In some cases second notices were sent where nothing or very little had been done structurally to improve the premises. Limited space to carry out improvements was the main difficulty.

The number of accidents notified during the year was 19. No legal action was found necessary.

Generally speaking cleanliness was found to be satisfactory, overcrowding was negligible, temperatures were never really tested because of the mildness of weather, ventilation was generally satisfactory whilst lighting standards varied quite a bit from place to place. Occupiers of a number of premises were asked to improve washing facilities and toilet arrangements. Provision of hot water was found to be the facility most lacking during visits. Suitable accommodation for clothing was another requirement often lacking even in new premises. Seating accommodation was found to be satisfactory as was accommodation for eating meals on the premises. The general repair of premises, although sometimes in need of attention, was generally reasonably good. No incidents of dangerous machinery were found. At most shops a suitable first aid box was provided but in some cases this facility was missing or inadequately stocked.

## 22. Cleansing

Refuse Collection. Although there was a slight increase in three of the four quarterly test weighings in 1966 compared with 1965 the weight of domestic refuse from burgh households still remains much below the tonnage collected a few years ago. It is anticipated that with the development of smoke control areas soon and the consequent change-over by many more householders to gas and electricity there will be a further decline in the weight of refuse collected and a corresponding increase in bulky rubbish, a lot of which is burnt at present. Weight-wise the following table shows how the character of refuse has changed, mainly due to a reduction in the use of coal for heating, washing and cooking:

| | *Tonnage* | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *Quarterly Weighings* | 1966 | 1965 | 1964 | 1960 |
| March .. .. | 251 | 266 | 290 | 392 |
| June .. .. | 233 | 210 | 211 | 230 |
| September .. .. | 223 | 221 | 238 | 280 |
| December .. .. | 244 | 239 | 258 | 325 |

The selection of vehicles to carry this lightweight bulky refuse is now of importance and in recent years rear-loading types fitted with power-press compression to increase the weight of load carried have been put into service. One bulk-loading refuse collection vehicle with compression equipment was purchased in May. A wastepaper collection vehicle of the barrier-loader type also went into service this year.

The Town Council operates a trade refuse collection scheme under a Local Order whereby charges are imposed annually for the collection of trade refuse from shops, offices, small factories, hotels, restaurants and public houses. A rebate system operates, particularly for premises where meals are served. New industries coming into the town have waste-disposal problems and some firms sought service from the Cleansing Department until suitable means of disposal, such as in-

cinerators were erected. Bulky refuse is collected once weekly from householders at a small charge, with free removal for old age pensioners. Beds, bedding, old furniture, pianos, carpets and linoleum are the main articles collected in this way. Charges for bulky loads of furniture brought to the tip by private firms for burning were increased to compensate for the labour involved. During the year the department sold 538 approved galvanised dustbins, with lid attached, to householders. Since the dustbin scheme started at the end of 1963 a total of 2,034 bins have been sold. A considerable number of refuse receptacles in use by householders however, fall far short of modern standards and should be discontinued. Following discussions in the Health and Cleansing Committees on the public health aspect of uncovered refuse containers standing at the kerbside awaiting collection the Town Council agreed to seek powers at the earliest opportunity to enforce the use of approved dustbins by every householder and occupier of premises.

There was a reduction in the number of tea-boxes used by shopkeepers for trade refuse storage, some shops having purchased either plastic, aluminium or galvanised bins instead. Several unsatisfactory refuse receptacles were reported to the owners for replacement where there was a risk of cut fingers to employees or torn clothing.

Refuse Disposal. It was estimated that about 13,500 tons of domestic and shop refuse were collected and deposited at Balbarton Tip in 1966 while a further 5,245 tons reached the tip as trade refuse, street sweepings, gully tank deposits and builders' rubbish. The latter is now under restriction to conserve tipping space for domestic refuse and mixed loads of laths, wood and stones are not accepted. Burning of combustible refuse like furniture at the tip is also under strict control to avoid nuisance and the risk of tip fires.

The proposal to install a refuse disposal plant at Denburn Yard to reduce refuse bulk by about 50% and extract tins and other metals there before depositing the residue at Balbarton was still under consideration. Refuse analysis of the summer and winter contents of dustbins from different parts of the town was undertaken this year and the mixture carefully sorted, selected and weighed with the following results:

| | *Summer* % | *Winter* % |
|---|---|---|
| Fine Dust .. .. .. .. .. | 24.50 | 33.50 |
| Cinders .. .. .. .. .. | 0.60 | 28.10 |
| Vegetable and Putrescible .. .. .. | 12.76 | 12.90 |
| Garden Refuse .. .. .. .. | 24.10 | 1.20 |
| Paper Content .. .. .. .. | 14.96 | 10.30 |
| Metals .. .. .. .. .. | 7.30 | 7.20 |
| Rags .. .. .. .. .. .. | 1.91 | 0.40 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Glass .. .. .. .. .. .. | 5.20 | 4.80 |
| Polythene and Cellophane .. .. .. | 0.91 | 0.60 |
| Unclassified .. .. .. .. .. (wood, leather, crockery, stone) | 7.76 | 1.00 |
| | 100.00% | 100.00% |

Wastepaper salvage sales were cut by 25% in June and a temporary suspension of mixed paper deliveries occurred in August with some further restrictions later. Clean newspaper and fibreboard sales were not affected. Some mixed wastepaper was sold locally at a reduced price and markets abroad were being investigated to avoid having to burn surplus wastepaper or dump it at the tip.

Salvage sales for 1966 were as follows:

| | *Tons* | *cwts.* | *qrs.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Wastepaper .. .. .. .. | 1,091 | 9 | 3 |
| Baled Tins and Scrap .. .. .. | 24 | 7 | 1 |
| Textiles and Rags .. .. .. | 35 | 11 | 1 |
| Miscellaneous .. .. .. .. | 1 | — | 1 |
| TOTAL .. | 1,152 | 8 | 2 |

STREET CLEANSING. A highway tractor-trailer unit went into service this year equipped with bucket loader for snow clearance and for lifting debris from the roadway at Esplanade after sea storms. It will also be used for carrying weed spraying equipment in summer and other street cleansing duties. A trailer motor brush sweeper-collector was also purchased for use in conjunction with the new tractor. This unit is giving good service although parked cars and one-way streets considerably hamper the operation of mechanical street sweeping equipment in the daytime, and even night-shift operations would also be restricted in some parts of the town for the same reason. It is considered, however, that some night sweeping and washing of streets will be necessary in the near future if traffic conditions continue to grow at the same rate as in the past few years.

There were several small snowfalls during the winter and one severe snowstorm at a weekend in February when 6" to 8" of snow lay at the back of the town and for a short period Chapel Village was cut off. Snow ploughing by the Burgh Engineer later cleared the roads in this area, while cleansing employees concentrated on keeping the gullies running when a quick thaw followed. A sea-storm occurred at the same time and much debris was thrown over the sea-wall on to the inside walk and adjoining ground.

Gritting of roads and pavements was needed periodically during the winter to combat frosty surfaces and a cleaning-up programme was devised to reduce complaints of dust nuisance when the dry weather returned. The speed of this work was also delayed to some extent in one-way streets and in other streets near main shopping areas where cars were often parked on both sides of the roadway – off and on – for a large part of each working day.

Littering of streets in all busy shopping areas still remains a problem despite an adequate distribution of litter bins throughout the town. The worst day of the week for litter is Saturday afternoon when no street orderlies are on duty.

Public Conveniences. A suitable site for a new public convenience at Gallatown for both sexes has not been found and the temporary arrangement of using the converted existing stone-built convenience for men and the mobile toilet unit situated on an adjoining site next door for ladies, has operated reasonably well. This make-shift arrangement, however, should not be continued for too long. No progress has been made with the erection of a replacement public convenience at Junction Road where the gents' convenience adjoining Sinclairtown Station is due for demolition. The proposal is that the new convenience should be for ladies and gents with accommodation for full-time attendants. The gents' convenience at the corner of Kirk Wynd and Hill Street will be demolished soon for road improvements and it was agreed that another for both sexes should be erected in the central area as speedily as possible. The new mobile toilet unit for service at parks, fairs, etc., was delivered in time to be used at the Links Market in April during the five-day fair. On that occasion this adaptable unit was connected to mains water supply and sewerage system while the unit batteries were kept charged by overhead electricity cable from a nearby street lamp standard. Mainly, however, the mobile toilet is designed to operate without connection to any of these services and was used in this way at Beveridge Park on Saturday afternoons in summer when large picnic gatherings were present and also during motor cycle racing events.

Vandalism at public conveniences still causes the Council and officials some concern for much of the value of recent improvements, like the introduction of hot water to twelve conveniences, is lost when washbasin stoppers are removed, liquid soap dispensers are damaged and paper towels are pulled out and strewn about the floors. Although coin-locks have been removed from most lavatory doors inside door bolts are frequently wrenched off thus affording no privacy to users until replacement bolts have been fitted again.

Fortunately damage to fittings is much less in ladies' conveniences than those used by men. Indeed one compliment passed to the department mentioned the high standard of cleanliness and equipment being maintained in our ladies' toilets.

Although it will add a fair sum to the rates in future the Council have decided that the five new public conveniences to be built in the next few years should be designed to reduce the risk of vandalism to a minimum and that provision must be made for full-time attendants being on the premises during all opening hours.

WELFARE. Plans were approved and work commenced on the new messrooms and welfare block for cleansing employees and others at Denburn Yard. The estimated completion date was September, 1967. Provision has been made in the new premises for double lockers for employees, showers, clothes drying room and dining room with cooking facilities. The estimated cost of the new premises is around £16,500. It is considered that about 70 of the 120 employees working in the Cleansing Department will be able to make use of the new welfare block once it is completed.

For the year ended 15th May, 1966, the cost of collection and disposal of refuse, street cleansing and supervision of public conveniences amounted to £99,953 0s. 0d. after allowing for income of £11,349 0s. 0d. This worked out at 38/5d. per head of the population or less than 9d. per week – a very reasonable sum for all the services provided.

**23. Sewers and Drains**

The Town Council authorised expenditure for the construction of a duplicate sewer in Chapel Valley to serve the future housing development west of Chapel Village and this work was begun.

In terms of the Rivers (Prevention of Pollution) (Scotland) Act, 1965, discussions took place with the Burgh Engineer on the application to be submitted to the River Purification Board for consent to discharge sewage into the River Forth through existing sewer outfalls.

At this stage it was deemed unnecessary to take samples and submit reports on chemical analysis of the sewage discharged from each sewer outfall.

It was apparent, however, that very shortly some form of treatment will be required before sewage is allowed to be discharged into the sea and that sewage disposal works will have to be provided for the whole town. Only minor chokages at sewers occurred this year and these were promptly rectified.

The Burgh Engineer reported that the number of drains tested totalled 670, of which 180 were formal applications and 490 were in respect of minor warrants.

**24. Noise Abatement Act**

Two complaints of noise were dealt with this year. One case referred to beat music and juke box music coming from the hall of a

youth organisation during dance sessions which affected householders in nearby dwellings. Assurance was given that steps would be taken at once to minimise the volume of noise and that in the proposed reconstruction of the premises further steps to minimise noise would be taken.

The other case referred to noise from two compressors at industrial premises, one operating paint-spraying plant and the other connected with a car lift. The firm agreed to seek advice from a civil engineer on how best to deal with the problem.

An assistant Sanitary Inspector attended a three-day course on Noise Control and submitted a report on the points covered by the course to the Health Committee. The Council decided not to purchase noise measuring equipment at this time in view of the limited number of complaints reported.

### 25. Caravan Sites

Efforts continue to be made by the Town Council to find a suitable site for holiday caravans within the town. Sites to be visited soon by a Sub-Committee include Pathhead Sands, Pipers Braes, Dysart, Ravenscraig Park and Dunnikier Park.

Itinerant caravan dwellers were found on a number of unauthorised sites throughout the year, staying from a few days to several weeks; they were advised to move on. One family kept moving around the town from one unauthorised site to another before finally leaving the town. The Boreland Woods on the outskirts of the burgh continue to be frequented by tinkers, usually in the late autumn.

### 26. Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations

Two firms are registered under this Act. No action was necessary.

### 27. Pharmacy and Poisons Act and Orders

There was little change in the Council's list of authorised sellers of Part II poisons this year. Altogether poisons in this category were sold from 40 premises and 24 visits were made in connection with the proper labelling of containers and the inspection of registers, where necessary. Each year shopkeepers are advised by advertisement to contact the Sanitary Department if there is doubt about whether their name should be added to the Council's list and Inspectors take note during shop inspections that listed products are not offered for sale from unauthorised premises.

One sample of bulk disinfectant was submitted for test analysis and was later reported to be in order.

### 28. Pet Animals Acts

Six applications were granted to deal in small live stock or keep a pet animal shop. Premises inspected were clean and the animals and fish kept in suitable conditions. No premises are licensed in terms of the Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963.

### 29. Riding Establishment Act

There are no known riding establishments within the burgh.

### 30. The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act

No statutory action was required in terms of this Act, there being few farms within the town.

### 31. Fertiliser and Feeding Stuffs

Four samples of feeding stuffs and two samples of fertilisers were sent to the Agricultural Analyst for test analysis against the declared statutory statements listed on the invoice, label or other notice. Two samples of feeding stuffs and one fertiliser complied in all respects while one organic fertiliser was deficient in nitrogen and two organic feeding stuffs showed variations above or below the stated contents, only conforming in one constituent. The local manufacturer of the feeding stuffs agreed to add a varied mixture of animal by-products before treatment to produce more uniform meal quality and to extract more oil from the finished product before sale. Samples examined included layers pellets, chinchilla pellets, dried blood, meat and bone meal and an artificial manure.